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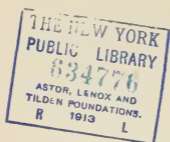
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VOLUME II

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*J. F. Drummond*

# BIOGRAPHICAL

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JOHN F. DUNCOMBE.

John F. Duncombe, deceased, who was a prominent attorney-at-law in Fort Dodge, Iowa, was born in Wattsburg, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1831. Under the parental roof he spent his boyhood days and in his native town acquired his early education, which was supplemented by study in Allegheny College of Meadville, Pennsylvania, and in the Center College at Danville, Kentucky. He was graduated from both of these institutions before taking up the study of law in his native town in the office of Marshall & Vincent. He was admitted to the bar of Pennsylvania and for one year engaged in the practice of his profession there. In April, 1855, he came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and began the practice of law in this city. He made for himself a creditable place in the ranks of the legal fraternity and was widely known for the care with which he prepared his cases. In no instance was his reading ever confined to the limitations of the questions at issue; it compassed every contingency and provided not alone for the expected but as well for the unexpected, which happens in the courts quite as frequently as out of them. His logical grasp of the facts and principles of the law applicable to them has been another potent element in his success, and his remarkable clearness of expression and precise diction were counted among his conspicuous gifts and accomplishments. For thirty-seven years he acted as attorney for the Iowa division of the Illinois Central Railroad and he served in the same capacity for the Mason City & Fort Dodge, the Des Moines & Fort Dodge and the Cherokee & Dakota Railroads. He practiced in twenty-five counties in the state. In political and public life Mr. Duncombe was equally prominent. In 1857, when the news of the Spirit Lake massacre reached Fort Dodge, he took an active part in raising the troops which were sent against the Indians, and he acted as captain of Company B. In 1859 he was elected to the state senate from the senatorial district which was then composed of one-fourth of the entire state. He also was a member of the lower house for two terms and attended four

general and three special sessions. In 1872 he served as chairman of the Iowa delegation to the national democratic convention at Baltimore. For sixteen years he served as regent of the State University and he was appointed by Governor Geer to serve on the capital commission but this honor he declined. Because of his public energy and liberality his name is identified with most of the institutions of Fort Dodge. The Duncombe Hotel stands in proof of his public spirit and it is an acknowledged fact that his individual efforts and support were employed in all enterprises persuading railroad companies to extend their lines into Fort Dodge. In conjunction with C. B. Richards he developed the coal mines at this place and at Boone, and he served as secretary for both the Fort Dodge Coal Company and the Rocky Ford Coal Company of Wyoming Territory.

On May 11, 1859, Mr. Duncombe was married to Miss Mary A. Williams, a daughter of Major William Williams, the patriot-pioneer of Fort Dodge. To this union seven children were born, including the following: William E.; Charles F., publisher of the Chronicle and former mayor of Fort Dodge; Mary J., wife of Senator W. S. Kenyon; Gertrude; and John A. In politics Mr. Duncombe was an inflexible democrat, stanchly supporting the policies and activities of that party. His influence was always used along the lines of reform and progress. He was a charter member of the chapter and commandery of the Masonic fraternity of this city and also attained the thirty-third degree of the Scottish Rite. Mrs. Duncombe is president of the Webster County Historical Society, an office which she is well qualified to hold, as she has been a resident of this city since her arrival here in 1855. At present she is living at the old home, Fair Oaks. Mr. Duncombe's death occurred August 2, 1902. His interest in community affairs was that of a public-spirited citizen who recognized the opportunities for reform, progress and improvement, and he labored to achieve what could be attained in that direction.

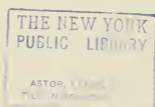
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#### CHARLES LARRABEE.

Charles Larrabee, a leading and respected resident of Fort Dodge, living at No. 1222 Sixth avenue, South, is a well known factor in financial circles as the vice president and a director of the Iowa Savings Bank and is also prominent in agricultural circles as a farmer and breeder of thoroughbred cattle. His birth occurred in Cler-



Mary A. Ducrest



mont, Iowa, on the 13th of June, 1862, his parents being Hon. William and Ann M. (Appelman) Larrabee. A sketch of the father appears on another page of this work. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Adam Larrabee, while his maternal grandparents were Gustavus Adolphus and Prudence Ann (Williams) Appelman.

Charles Larrabee was reared in the city of his nativity and obtained his early education in the public schools, continuing his studies in the Iowa Agricultural College at Ames. Assisting in the work of his father's farm, he early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and in the pursuit of farming and stock-raising he has found both pride and pleasure. After putting aside his text-books he went to Kossuth county, Iowa, to look after his father's landed interests there, and for a period of seven years resided at Armstrong in Emmet county, just over the Kossuth county line. Subsequently he came to Fort Dodge and, in association with E. J. Breen and others, organized the Iowa Savings Bank with a capitalization of fifty thousand dollars. In the capacity of vice president he has since contributed in large measure to the growth and success of the institution. He is also connected with the Corn Belt Packing Company, the E. H. Williams Lumber Company and the Lehigh Sewer Pipe & Tile Company. The pursuits of farming and stock-raising, however, have claimed the major portion of his time and attention. He and his brother, Senator Frederic Larrabee, are breeders of the Brown Swiss and Hereford cattle. In 1881, at the Iowa State Fair, he exhibited for his father the first herd of Brown Swiss cattle ever shown at that fair and received a silver medal. He owns farms in Kossuth and Lyon counties, and the cattle farm which he owns in association with his brother comprises four hundred acres and lies just south of the corporate limits of Fort Dodge. His interests are varied and important and in their successful control he has won a creditable measure of prosperity and an enviable reputation for integrity and straightforward dealing.

On the 8th of May, 1901, Mr. Larrabee was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte Winston Osborn, a native of Rippey, Iowa, and a daughter of Benjamin F. and Mittie (Shelton) Osborn, who were born in Indiana and Virginia respectively. Her parents became early settlers of Greene county, Iowa, and are still residents of Rippey, where Mr. Osborn has been engaged in the drug business since 1878. He was connected with the board of regents at Iowa City and also with the board of trustees of the Iowa State Teachers' College at

Cedar Falls for a number of years. He has three children, William S., Wayne M. and Charlotte Winston Larrabee. The last named is the mother of three children, namely: Charles, Jr., Frederic Osborn and Anne.

Charles Larrabee is a staunch republican and has been a member of the Fort Dodge city council for one term. While still a resident of his native city he served as a member of the Clermont school board. His wife belongs to the Episcopal church. As a business man Mr. Larrabee has been conspicuous among his associates, not only for his success, but for his fairness and honorable methods. In everything he has been eminently practical, and this has been manifest not only in his business undertakings but in his agricultural, social and private life.

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#### O. J. WOODARD.

O. J. Woodard is cashier, general manager and a director of the First National Bank of Lehigh, Iowa, of which city he has been a resident since 1910. He is a son of John and Ella (Irish) Woodard, the former a native of Maine, his birth having occurred in 1820, and the latter a native of Vermont. The father was reared at Foxcroft, Maine, where he learned the trades of carpenter and millwright. In 1852 he went to California, making the journey by way of Cape Horn, and after reaching the Golden state was for some time interested in mining. He then removed to Minnesota in the early '60s, where he remained until 1871, at which time he located on a farm of two hundred and sixteen acres in Burnside township, Webster county, Iowa. At the time of the discovery of gold in Deadwood, South Dakota, he, in company with three men from Fort Dodge, went to that gold camp, where he remained for some time and then returned to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he continued to live until 1884. He then removed with his family to his farm in Burnside township and there died in 1888. He was a member of the Congregational church. He was united in marriage to Miss Ella Irish in Minnesota. At an early age she removed with her parents from Vermont and settled in Wisconsin. Later the family took up their abode in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Woodard were the parents of four children: Belle, the wife of W. A. Van Winkle, living at Dayton, Iowa; Fern, who also resides in Dayton; Beatrice, who mar-

ried O. L. Smith, of Quincy, Michigan; and O. J., the subject of this sketch. The mother of this family is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and now resides with her eldest daughter in Dayton.

O. J. Woodard was reared at home and received his early education in the public schools of Fort Dodge and later pursued a course in the Highland Park College at Des Moines, Iowa. After completing his education he was engaged in farming from 1893 to January, 1907. His father died when the subject of this review was a youth of thirteen years and for nineteen years following his father's death he had charge of the home farm, a position which he filled during his college days. He was also subsequently deputy treasurer of Webster county, serving under Mr. Hadley, who was the treasurer. He later filled the position of cashier of the State Savings Bank at Yetter, Iowa, and as such continued for fifteen months. On January 1, 1910, he removed to Lehigh and there accepted the position as cashier and general manager of the First National Bank of that city, also serving on the board of directors, and has since devoted his attention to the interests of the bank. Besides his interest in the bank he is engaged in stock-raising, specializing in pure-bred Aberdeen Angus cattle. The undertaking is conducted on a rented farm, four miles from Lehigh in Burnside township, and our subject is the manager.

Mr. Woodard was united in marriage to Miss Nora B. Tennant, a native of Burnside township and a daughter of J. W. and Jane Tennant, both of whom are residents of Burnside. To Mr. and Mrs. Woodard two children have been born, Irene and Sibyl, both attending public school. Mr. Woodard belongs to the republican party and has fraternal relations with the Masonic lodge at Lehigh, of which he is senior warden. He is one of the progressive and representative men of Webster county and a man who by strict integrity in business matters has won the confidence and esteem of all his friends and associates.

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### FRANK ERNEST PRUSIA.

A history of commercial development and progress in Fort Dodge would be incomplete were there failure to make reference to the Prusia Hardware Company, which was established in 1855 and of which Frank Ernest Prusia is the secretary. This is one of the oldest business enterprises of the city and at its head are men—father and

son—who figure prominently and honorably as factors in the prosperity of the city. Frank E. Prusia was born in Fort Dodge, April 9, 1871, his parents being Emanuel and Mary (Colwell) Prusia, the former a native of Michigan and the latter of Maine. The paternal grandfather became one of the pioneers of Michigan and during the gold excitement in California he went to the Pacific coast. He died in middle life, while his wife, Mrs. Mary Prusia, passed away later. After losing her first husband she became the wife of George Klinedob. The only son of her first marriage is Emanuel E. Prusia, who was reared in Michigan and, when fourteen years old, came to Iowa. For some time he was employed in the postoffice in Des Moines and he afterward became an early settler of Fort Dodge, where in 1855 he established the hardware business that is now one of the chief commercial enterprises of the city. He conducted this store under the name of the Prusia Hardware Company, of which he is still the president. The firm was incorporated in 1891, and their salesroom was originally located west of the Duncombe Hotel but for many years has been at No. 608 Central avenue. Honored and respected by all, there is no man in Fort Dodge who occupies a more prominent position in commercial and financial circles than does Emanuel E. Prusia, not only by reason of the success that he has achieved but also owing to the straightforward business policies that he has ever followed. He wedded Mary Colwell, a daughter of Charles and Delia Colwell, who were natives of Maine. Her father was a farmer by occupation and became one of the early settlers of Douglas township, Webster county, Iowa, where he died when well advanced in years. His wife passed away in Fort Dodge. They had a large family including George, Mary, Charles, Frank, Damie, Jerome, Fred and Sarah. Their daughter, Mary, who became the wife of Emanuel E. Prusia, passed away in 1886, at the age of forty-one years. She was a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist church, to which Mr. Prusia also belongs. Emanuel E. Prusia has membership relations with the Odd Fellows society. In his family were three children, but Frank E. is the only one living. The second son, Leon, died at the age of fifteen years and Earle died in infancy.

Frank Ernest Prusia was reared in Fort Dodge and attended the public schools, while later he pursued a course of studies in Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa. Throughout his entire business career he has been connected with his father's establishment, first as a clerk in the store, while later he was admitted to a partnership.

The following year he became secretary of the company, which was incorporated to conduct a business that had grown from a small beginning to extensive proportions. Their trade is large and the success of the institution is due to the progressive, modern methods of the owners. They handle all kinds of shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, furnaces and tinware and have a business that has grown year by year and is now extensive.

On the 30th of October, 1895, Frank E. Prusia was married to Miss Sadie Thompson, a daughter of John Thompson. She was born in Watsonville, California, and it was there that she was married. Her parents were natives of Ireland and died in Watsonville. They had eleven children who reached adult age, Julia, Peter, Lizzie, Joseph, John, Edward, Maggie, Chris, Mary, Katie and Sadie. Mr. and Mrs. Prusia hold membership in the Sacred Heart Catholic church. They are well known in Fort Dodge, where they have long resided, and their many friends include the best residents of the city, indicating that their social and other qualities are such as win them high regard and popularity.

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#### WILLIAM R. TURNER, M. D.

One of the most promising young physicians in Badger, Iowa, is Dr. William R. Turner, who since 1909 has been connected with the general practice of medicine in that community and has met with gratifying success. He was born in Des Moines on September 3, 1884, and is a son of Robert and Sarah (Allen) Turner, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Des Moines. His father came to America when he was ten years of age, making the journey with his parents. He had talent for invention and great mechanical dexterity. The Jewett typewriter and a machine for making barbed wire are among the products of his labor. He followed the trade of a machinist and draftsman for a number of years and is now living retired in Des Moines, having reached the age of fifty-four years. His wife is fifty-three years of age.

William R. Turner was reared at home and was educated in the public schools of Des Moines. Subsequent to completing the usual course of studies he entered his father's machine shop and following a few years of activity there he enrolled in Drake University. After

some preparatory work in that institution he took up the study of medicine, graduating with the degree of M. D. in 1908. In the following year he came to Badger and commenced the general practice of medicine. He is the only doctor in the village and has built up during the three years of his residence here a reputation as a skillful, efficient and thoroughly capable physician. He is progressive and enterprising but never radical, a close and earnest student, and a practical doctor whose work up to the present time is a strong indication of greater success in the future.

In July, 1906, Dr. Turner was united in marriage to Miss Jessie E. Grigsby, a daughter of Luther and Annette (Sutton) Grigsby, the former a native of Kansas and the latter of Des Moines. Dr. and Mrs. Turner had one child, Jessie E., who died in November, 1907.

The subject of this review is prominent in many capacities. He owns his office and residence on the main street of the town and serves as health officer, doing able and efficient work in that position. He is a member of the Webster County and the State Medical Societies and is also active in the affairs of the Improved Order of Redmen. He is a democrat and belongs to the English Lutheran church. He has mastered his profession in all its details and keeps in touch with the progress made in medical science by constant reading. He adds to his scientific knowledge the qualities of integrity and conscientiousness and is therefore well liked and prosperous.

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#### M. N. COREY.

M. N. Corey, who is owner and manager of the Morning Star Mill at Lehigh, was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, March 22, 1880. His father, H. A. Corey, was a native of Illinois, and later removed to Fort Dodge, where he was engaged in mining, and in 1882 he came to Lehigh, where he operated a coal mine for several years. About 1891 he engaged in the dry-goods and shoe business in this city and in the fall of 1900 built the Morning Star Mill, which he owned and operated until 1908, when M. N. Corey, our subject, became the owner. He was also interested in the Corey Pressed Brick Plant, together with his brothers, Frank, Silas and George Corey, being connected with that plant for about three years. At the time of his death he was engaged in the mercantile business. He also erected the store building which is occupied by Craft & Son. At Fort

Dodge, Iowa, Mr. Corey was married to Miss Cora E. Deering, a native of Illinois, and to this union was born one son, M. N., of this review. H. A. Corey passed away in May, 1908, at his home in Lehigh, Iowa, and his wife now resides at Long Beach, California.

M. N. Corey attended the public schools of Lehigh and later was a student at Drake University in Des Moines. Ever since the starting of the mill at Lehigh he has been associated with the work of the same and in May, 1908, purchased the plant and has since operated it. He has made many improvements on the same and now has a private electrical plant, which supplies both his mill and residence. He keeps the plant running steadily as a custom-exchange mill and the output is sold mostly in the neighboring districts. Mr. Corey is carrying on an extensive business and does general milling. He also owns a beautiful home here, which he erected in 1909.

Mr. Corey married Miss Mildred Dugger, who is the daughter of T. T. Dugger. To Mr. and Mrs. Corey has been born a son, Thomas Henry. In his political views Mr. Corey is a republican, and fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to that lodge at Lehigh. He is a man of marked enterprise, positive character and strict integrity, and he has ever been greatly interested in the growth and prosperity of his community. His life is exemplary in many respects and he has the esteem of all his friends and the confidence of those who have had business relations with him.

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### FREDERICK RUEBEL.

Frederick Ruebel is a retired farmer of Webster county, where for forty years he cultivated two hundred and forty acres of land, meeting with well deserved success in his agricultural activities. He is also a veteran of the Civil war. Mr. Ruebel was born in New York on April 1, 1838, and is a son of Phillip and Margaret (Schopfer) Ruebel, natives of Germany. His father came to America at an early date and located in New York, where he worked at his trade of shoemaking for several years. Eventually, however, he took up farming, following this occupation for some time in New York, before he removed to Cedar Falls, Iowa. Here he worked at his trade for some time, coming in 1876, to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he purchased and improved a one hundred and sixty-acre

tract of land, which he operated until 1885, when he retired from active life and moved to Manson, this state, where he made his home until his death, which occurred in April, 1893. He had long survived his wife, who died in 1860.

Frederick Ruebel was reared at home and was educated in the public schools of New York. After he laid aside his books he worked for a short time by the month as a farm laborer, being thus engaged at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. He then enlisted in Company K, Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, in March, 1864, and served for one year, receiving his honorable discharge at the close of hostilities. He was mustered out in August, 1865, and returned immediately to New York, where after a short time during which he worked as a laborer, he rented land and operated it for two years. At the expiration of that time he went to Humboldt, Iowa, but after one year's residence in this city moved to Webster county, settling in this section in April, 1869. Here he purchased eighty acres of land in Johnson township and began its improvement and cultivation. He was successful in his undertaking owing to his familiarity with and experience in agricultural details, which he had gained as farm hand. He added to his holdings from time to time and his farm now comprises two hundred and forty acres of fertile and productive land. He gave his attention to its operation until the spring of 1909, when he retired from active life and moved to Barnum, where he purchased a comfortable and attractive home, in which he has resided since that time.

On January 1, 1867, Mr. Ruebel was united in marriage to Miss Adaline Miller, a daughter of Michael and Adaline Miller, natives of Germany. Mrs. Ruebel's father came to America at an early date and located in New York, where he followed farming until his death which occurred in 1877. His wife survived him many years, passing away in 1897. To Mr. and Mrs. Ruebel have been born two children: William F., who is a well known farmer of Johnson township; and Arthur P., manager of the Farmers Elevator Company of Barnum.

In his political views Mr. Ruebel is a consistent republican and is intelligently interested in public affairs. He belongs to the German Lutheran church. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company and in the Barnum Telephone Company and has served for seventeen years as treasurer of Johnson township. He has held the office of trustee and is at the present time a member of the town

council, making his retired life as vital a force in local progress and growth, as his years actively spent in agricultural life.

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### JAMES D. LOWRY, M. D.

Dr. James D. Lowry, a well known physician and surgeon of Fort Dodge, has here followed his profession for the past eleven years and has enjoyed a steadily growing and gratifying practice. He was born in this city and is a son of Edward and Ellen (Breen) Lowry, natives of County Tipperary, Ireland. His paternal grandparents, John and Catharine (Dunn) Lowry, died on the Emerald isle when well advanced in years. Their children were, Thomas, Christopher, James, Joseph, Edward, Elizabeth, Catharine and Mary.

Edward Lowry, the father of Dr. James D. Lowry, was reared in his native country and there remained until 1856, when he crossed the Atlantic to the United States. In 1869 he came to Iowa, settled in Fort Dodge and began working at railroading. His demise, here occurred in 1897, when he had attained the age of sixty-three years. His wife was called to her final rest in the year 1878. Both were devout communicants of the Catholic church. They were the parents of eight children, six of whom grew to maturity, namely: Catharine, who is a resident of Fort Dodge; John B., also living in Fort Dodge; Joseph A., of Des Moines; James D., of this review; Thomas F.; and Edward V., deceased.

James D. Lowry was reared in Fort Dodge and attended the parochial and public schools in the acquirement of an education, completing the high-school course in 1896. Having determined upon the practice of medicine as a life work, he entered the college of medicine of the State University of Iowa, which institution conferred upon him the degree of M. D. in 1901. Opening an office in Fort Dodge soon afterward, he has here practiced continuously since and has had well merited success as a representative of the medical profession. He belongs to the Webster County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and thus keeps in close touch with the most advanced methods of the fraternity.

Politically Dr. Lowry is a republican, believing firmly in the principles of that party. He was elected to the office of county coroner in 1906 and has been twice reelected since that time. Fraternally he is identified with the following organizations: Fort Dodge Coun-

cil, No. 613, Knights of Columbus; the Catholic Order of Foresters; the Woodmen of the World; the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks; and the Eagles. He is a devoted communicant of the Catholic church and a popular member of the Country Club of Fort Dodge. His residence is at No. 199 North First street, and in both professional and social circles of his native city he is well known and highly esteemed.

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### JONATHAN PRENTISS DOLLIVER.

Politician-ship develops into statesmanship along readily discernible lines. Honor and incorruptible integrity are fundamental forces in the evolution and are aided by a broad, cultured liberal mind, discernment, forcefulness, decisiveness and indefatigable energy. Individual character has much to do with the change and no politician can aspire to enter into that higher rank of men of nation-wide reputation and usefulness, who is not, first of all, an honest man. These are standards of statesmanship and judged by them the late Senator Jonathan P. Dolliver, who passed to his final rest on October 15, 1910, orator, lawyer, representative and United States senator from Iowa, stands forth in exalted prominence. His death was a distinct loss to the American nation and to its social, economic and political life.

Senator Dolliver was born near Kingwood, Preston county, Virginia, in the section of that state which is now West Virginia, February 6, 1858. His father, James J. Dolliver, was one of the distinguished men in the Methodist Episcopal ministry and was an active factor in the development of that church. He was a man of ability along religious lines, guided unerringly by a humane and human spirit, which won him the confidence and affection of his parishioners. He was married in 1855 to Miss Eliza J. Brown, a daughter of Robert Brown, a native of Preston county, West Virginia. Five children were born to this union: Robert H., who has followed in his father's footsteps in a useful and distinguished career as a Methodist minister; Jonathan P., the subject of this sketch; Victor B., born in 1861, who followed the profession of law in Fort Dodge, Iowa, until his death; Margaret Gay; and Mary H., the wife of E. R. Graham, of Evanston, Illinois.

Jonathan P. Dolliver was educated in public schools in West Virginia and with his brother Robert entered the University of West Virginia, from which he was graduated in 1875. He made wise use of every educational opportunity and when he had concluded his col-

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Louise P. Dolliver



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lege career engaged in teaching school. He followed this occupation for one year in Sandwich, Illinois, preliminary to a legal career. The profession of law had always attracted him. In pursuance of his ambition he spent the next year in the offices of his uncle, John J. Brown, a prominent attorney in Morganstown, and laid the foundation at this time of an eminent career. He interrupted his studies for one year to return to Sandwich, Illinois, where he accepted the position as principal of the high school. In 1878 he resumed his legal studies and with his brother, Robert H. Dolliver, invested all his savings in law books. They eventually came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where they opened a law office. The story of their early career is the usual record of struggle every young lawyer experiences. Young and practically unknown, they had few assets beyond youthful energy and undaunted hope. Time, however, and success after success gradually brought them a clientage. The future senator early in his career showed decided talent and understanding of situations and questions of a public nature and gained a reputation which spread throughout the surrounding counties for his brilliant oratory. He was frequently called upon to make public addresses and his work in the lecture field at this period of his life is even now remembered. What reputation he had was entirely local, however, and limited by the boundaries of his adopted state. His political career when it began was meteoric. He was a comparatively unknown lawyer, with a local reputation for oratory and with no important connection with republican politics in the state. In 1884, however, he was invited to take the temporary chairmanship of the republican state convention, held at Des Moines, and on that occasion made a speech. The state of Iowa rang with his words and the nation echoed with their broad significance. Mr. Dolliver found himself famous. He at once became a man of national prominence. His brilliant mind was recognized by republican leaders and his talents were hailed as national assets in the republican campaign. He was called east and took a conspicuously successful part in the memorable campaign which nominated James G. Blaine as the republican candidate for the presidency of the United States. Senator Dolliver accomplished effective work in the republican cause by his inspiring and convincing addresses, in which he analyzed the situation in a wonderfully clear manner. In every ensuing campaign Senator Dolliver assisted his party and was always on hand when help was needed in an emergency. His career in the United States congress began in 1888. His nomination as republican representative came

unsolicited, it may be said, as a gift of the people of Iowa to a well beloved citizen. In 1886 Senator Dolliver's friends in the tenth Iowa congressional district tendered him the republican nomination for congressman. A prominent figure connected with this event was Cyrus C. Carpenter, of Fort Dodge, former governor of Iowa and ex-congressman from the tenth district. Senator Dolliver, however, was defeated by the election of A. J. Holmes, of Boone county, and the event marked a crucial period in his public life. Two years later he was unanimously nominated in the republican convention held at Webster City and was elected by a large majority over his nearest rival. Never since that time did he meet setbacks in his political career. He was renominated by acclamation and elected to the United States house of representatives every year up to and including 1900.

Senator Dolliver's activities in public life were distinguished by a broad and liberal knowledge along social, economic and political lines. His character molded his political destiny to final triumphant success. He had a record of never giving his vote to an unworthy or useless cause and his career in its entirety was marked by intelligent labor in the promotion of the welfare of state and nation. His identification with the United States senate began in 1900. On July 14, of that year, Senator John H. Geer passed away and his death left a vacancy in the upper house of congress. Senator Dolliver seemed the logical man for the office. His friends rallied to his cause and on August 22, 1900, Governor Shaw appointed him United States senator to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Geer. The favor and approval with which this appointment was received by the people of Iowa was a surprise even to Senator Dolliver's most intimate friends and showed the strength of his political following in an adequate and gratifying manner. When the unexpired term was completed and Senator Dolliver came up for election there was no opposition to his candidacy. He was elected unanimously by both houses of the legislature in 1902 and reelected by acclamation in 1908. He served in the United States senate with conspicuous ability, until his death, in 1910, giving his influence to that progressive movement in his party inaugurated to better existing conditions in government and nation. It was well known to every prominent political leader in 1900, but perhaps not to the general public, that Senator Dolliver was strongly urged to become a candidate for vice president on the ticket with McKinley in 1900. In a memorial address Hon. Lafayette Young, of Iowa, speaking of this, said: "After Dolliver had served in the house and his reputation had be-

come national he was frequently mentioned for the office of vice president, and some months before his death there had been a conspicuous expression that he would some time be president. Just before the convening of the republican national convention held in Philadelphia in 1900 a great western newspaper suggested Senator Dolliver for vice president. The movement grew to be one of importance. I was a delegate to that convention and received a telegram from my associate delegates, already at Philadelphia, to come on at once, prepared to help the Dolliver movement and to prepare a speech to be used in placing him before the convention. I proceeded at once to Philadelphia and our political activities began. We opened headquarters. We secured banners and a band of music. Then we began to inquire in relation to our candidate. We discovered that he was stopping with friends in a Philadelphia suburb and that he was much unconcerned in regard to the suggestion of his name. He was urged, and yet his enthusiasm did not grow. He was asked to go before the Iowa delegation and finally did so, but with half-unconcerned and lukewarm spirit. The Dolliver enthusiasm had not reached Dolliver; but his friends continued their campaign in his behalf. Congressional associates visited headquarters and urged the movement forward; but the Senator said that he could not afford to be vice president; that the social requirements were too many. The only other name mentioned for vice president was that of Colonel Roosevelt. Colonel Roosevelt's friends were urging him not to be a candidate and not to accept the place, giving as a reason that four years later they hoped to nominate him for president. This, then, was the situation: Senator Dolliver's friends were urging him to accept the vice presidential nomination, regardless of his future, and Colonel Roosevelt's friends were determined that he should not accept, having in mind his future. I have always believed that if Colonel Roosevelt had not consented to accept the nomination Senator Dolliver would have been the nominee, and thus the whole course of history might have been changed. The negotiations and consultations among party leaders were numerous. Senators Platt, of New York, and Quay, of Pennsylvania, then conspicuous in party management, were anxious for the nomination of Colonel Roosevelt, to make what they called a 'well-balanced ticket,' meaning that men of different types should be chosen for the two great offices; but these party leaders were unable to secure Colonel Roosevelt's consent. A little later in the proceedings these two senators, now dead, left the field, placing everything in charge of Senator Mark Hanna. Senator Hanna was chairman of the republican national committee. With his usual energy he undertook to

ascertain the situation. It is doubtlessly true that he knew the situation. There had been so much in the way of diplomacy between the camps that the situation was generally known to active party men. The first thing Senator Hanna did was to call upon Senator Dolliver and his friends. Learning that the Senator did not have his heart in the cause, he asked the Senator and myself to go with him to call upon Colonel Roosevelt for the purpose of securing an acceptance or an unequivocal refusal. Colonel Roosevelt had all the time refused to say that he would not accept the nomination for vice president, refusing to assume that the office was beneath him for the reason that he regarded it as a great office. We called upon Colonel Roosevelt. Senator Hanna asked him, 'Colonel Roosevelt, will you accept the nomination for vice president?' As I remember it, the Colonel responded, 'I will, at your hands and at the hands of the entire republican party.' Then Senator Dolliver turned and with a smile said, 'It is all over. My name shall not be used.' Senator Hanna asked Colonel Roosevelt who would present his name. The Colonel turned to Senator Dolliver and Senator Dolliver turned to me, remarking that 'You can just change your speech a little and nominate the Colonel.' Senator Hanna then, turning to me, said, 'It is up to you, young man.' My speech nominating Dolliver had already gone out to the Press Association and had to be suppressed by wire. This is the story of the vice presidency at Philadelphia, briefly told."

One of the best estimates of the work and character of Senator Dolliver is found in Munsey's Magazine of September, 1912, and reads as follows:

"It does injustice to none to say that there was but one Dolliver in the generation in which he made his record of public service. When he died, he was the acknowledged leader of what was then known as 'insurgency' within the republican party.

"The great things of which Dolliver was so large a part when they were yet small have moved on and on. We have got far enough away from their beginnings to make it hard to realize what a heroic figure he was, as he stood in the senatorial forum but three short years ago, defying the agents of privilege and 'regularity,' warning them that they had entered upon a course in which the nation could not and would not follow them.

"For his answer, he was read out of the party that he had served and honored from boyhood; but that was the least of his concerns. He knew that the vast majority of the party were with him in sentiment and sympathy; he had confidence that in due time that fact would declare itself, and he would be vindicated.

"It was not the passion of a moment that made Dolliver defy and flaunt the ruling powers of his party. He had been slow to believe that influences of the most reprehensible sort had secured a grip upon it that menaced the very spirit of popular institutions. He served nearly a quarter of a century in congress, a devoted party man, before he became convinced that the destinies of the nation could possibly be insecure in the control of his party. He found, on occasion, it is true, that the men who represented his party's leadership in legislation were frequently unresponsive when he urged upon them policies that he confidently believed to be in the interest of the whole country; but still he hesitated to believe that his party, as such, had fallen into the control of bad influences, and could no longer be trusted.

"The first awakening came to him in 1906, when he assumed congressional leadership of the movement for strengthening the interstate commerce laws. He found the powers of party, or regularity, of capitalized privilege, not only in his own party, but in the opposition, hostile to that movement. He began to wonder, to surmise, to contemplate the possibilities involved in such a situation; but, by dint of a magnificent fight, the needed legislation was at last passed, and to Dolliver it seemed for the moment a vindication of his theory that his own party could finally be trusted to meet any emergency of public service.

"Following closely upon this came the experience of the tariff session of 1909. Dolliver believed in a different tariff program than that which the party leaders had adopted. He was sincere, and believed that his was the only program that any sincere man could accept. He could not, this time, bring the ruling coterie to accept his views. Week after week, month after month of that session, Dolliver and the little host that gathered at his back, fought for concession, and gained none.

"In the end they were steam-rolled out of the fight, and the law was passed as the bosses wanted it. Then Dolliver realized, as he had never done before, that there was serious doubt whether his party could be trusted. He became frankly, openly insurgent against the whole scheme of things, against the entire existing regime of the party's government.

"Patronage was withdrawn, social ostracism was imposed, political destruction was menaced; but Dolliver would not turn back. He had at last formed his purpose. The party to which he had given his career and his talents must be reformed—from within.

"That was the message he gave the country in his last public

utterances. He used all he possessed of eloquence, of sarcasm, invective, irony, appeal, to win a following among the people in congress and out, who could see as plainly as he could. He came up to leadership almost in a day. Other men had been plodding that same path for years before he had entered upon it; but when he became convinced that his duty carried him along with them, he went to the head of the line. He was the great popular figure, the favored orator, the Mirabeau of the insurgent movement.

"'Here is our real leader,' the country first vaguely felt, then began to say aloud.

"It turned to him as the man who could if that lay in any man's power, save the republican party and bring it back to the higher ideals of its founders. He was strong with party men, because he had always been the most loyal of them all. They knew that Dolliver would go as far as any to save the party; but they knew, too, that he wanted to save it for service to the nation, not as a monument of longevity in senility. They believed in him.

"That is why Dolliver, had he lived, would have been the leader. He occupied the great, big place in the popular imagination. The people loved him, believed in him, and rose to those magnificent appeals that none so well as he could formulate and deliver.

"Had he lived, he would, in all human probability, have been the nominee of the republican party, this year, for the presidency. He was never hated by the men who could not agree with him. He would have become the meeting-point of many men and many minds. The public would have demanded him; the organization, weakened and fearful, would have yielded. He would have been nominated, the party would have substantially united at his back, and he would have led it to higher planes, to nobler purposes of true usefulness, than it has known in many years.

"Just on the eve of this magnificent opportunity that almost everybody, better than he, saw was opening to him, death came and ended it all. He had known for a long while that his hold on life was insecure; that organic disorders had weakened his heart; that he might go suddenly, and at any time. Knowing that, he never spared himself, never avoided the heat and burden of the day. Rather, he sought to do more than his share.

"But for the excesses of study and effort which he imposed upon himself during the tariff session of 1909 and the railroad session of 1910, Dolliver would probably be alive to-day. He knew the danger he was inviting when he assumed those labors. He gave up his life and the brilliant prospect of a triumphant climax to his career, in his devotion to what he believed the duty of the hour.

"He did more than any other man to make the forward movement the power it now has become in this nation; and he offered himself as the richest sacrifice that was laid on its altar. As truly as ever a soldier in the trenches, he gave his life for his country."

On November 20, 1895, Senator Dolliver was united in marriage to Miss Louise Pearsons, a daughter of George R. Pearsons, of Fort Dodge. Mrs. Dolliver was born in Vermont but has spent her life since she was two years of age in Iowa. She is a graduate of Wellesley College in the class of 1889, and her intellectual attainments were a cooperant factor in her husband's brilliant and useful work in the world. Senator and Mrs. Dolliver were the parents of three children, Margaret Eliza, Frances Pearsons and Jonathan Prentiss. On October 15, 1910, Senator Dolliver died. Political opponents clasped hands over his grave in the universal brotherhood of sorrow; party lines disappeared before the Grim Reaper and his work is today a vital factor in the life of Iowa and of the nation. One of our foremost statesmen, gifted with political ability second to none, his death marked the passing of a man who had gained the esteem and love of the people of his state, prominence and distinction in America, and honor throughout the world.

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### JAMES BLAKELY WILLIAMS.

No history of Fort Dodge would be complete without extended reference to James Blakely Williams, who was but twelve years of age when he first visited the site of the city. It had been selected as an army post but it was not until the following year that the city was laid out, with his father as one of its promoters and incorporators. From that period until his death he lived here and his life work became an integral chapter in the history of the community. James Blakely Williams was born in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, May 11, 1836, a son of Major William Williams and Judith Lloyd (McConnell) Williams, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, the birthplace of the latter being Huntingdon. Of the five children born to them, two survived, James Blakely and Mary Augustine, who became the wife of J. F. Duncombe. The father, Major Williams, was a banker in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, until 1849, when attracted by the opportunities and advantages of the growing west, he left his native state. He was born in Greensburg, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, December 6, 1796, and was reared and

educated among the frontier men of that period, men who had served in the Revolutionary war and had participated in the contest with the Indians for the supremacy of the country. In early life Major Williams became well versed in military tactics and it was his desire to enter upon a military career. When sixteen years of age he obtained his father's consent to join the army but circumstances arose that made this course impossible. He visited both Pittsburg and Carlisle, where schools were established for cavalry and flying artillery. Events, however, forced him to turn his attention to a commercial rather than a military career and he obtained the position of teller in the Westmoreland Bank of Pennsylvania at Greensburg. This was one of the forty banks chartered during the administration of Governor Snyder. After serving in that capacity for some time he resigned his position and began the manufacture of salts on the Kiskiminitas river. With his father's death the responsibility of providing for and educating the other children of the family devolved upon Major Williams, a burden which he assumed willingly, recognizing at once his obligation in that direction. About that time he accepted an appointment which gave him charge of seven different mercantile establishments, the principal one of which was at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. It was while there that he was married on the 19th of August, 1830, to Miss Judith Lloyd McConnell. On the completion of the canal he removed to Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, where he opened and conducted a store, and while there he was tendered the appointment of teller of the Exchange Bank of Pittsburg, which position he accepted, removing to the latter city. The bank determined to establish a branch at Hollidaysburg and Mr. Williams returned to that place to become cashier of the new institution, with which he was thus connected for some years. On the 15th of May, 1842, his wife died and about that time he was tendered the command of the Third Regiment in the Fenian cause, intended to act in concert with Smith O'Brien in Ireland. This regiment was made up mostly of officers and soldiers who had served in Mexico.

On the 12th of February, 1844, Major Williams was again married, his second union being with Miss Jeannette J. Quinan, a daughter of the Rev. Thomas H. Quinan, of Philadelphia. They continued residents of Pennsylvania until March, 1849, when they started for Iowa, Major Williams bringing out a company of one

hundred and forty-one people. Upon arriving at Muscatine he found that the Indians were occasioning considerable trouble, three companies of United States troops, under command of Major Samuel Woods, arriving at Muscatine about that time on their way to Indiantown. Being acquainted with the greater number of officers, Major Williams accompanied them, taking with him his son James Blakely Williams, then a youth of twelve years. A site was selected on which to establish a post, called Fort Clark, now Fort Dodge, and Major Armstead was dispatched with a company of troops to the points designated. Major Williams, at the request of General Churchill, Major Woods and Captain Caster, went to Fort Snelling, as Governor Ramsey was then having difficulty with the Chippewa and Sioux Indians, who were collecting their forces for a general war. After the soldiers left Fort Dodge, the object of their mission having been accomplished, Major Williams opened a sutler's store and traded with the Indians. The firm of Henn, Williams & Company platted the town, now the city of Fort Dodge and here Major Williams resided until his death, which occurred February 26, 1874. He was not only the founder of the town but one of its chief promoters, his labors constituting an important element in its substantial growth and improvement for many years. His name is inseparably interwoven with its history. Major Williams was the first postmaster and the first mayor of Fort Dodge and he cooperated in all the various movements which tended to advance the interests of the community. During the latter years of his life he lived retired, enjoying a well earned and well merited rest. A man of liberal education and of high moral character, he was also of a genial disposition and kindly spirit. These combined qualities well fitted him for leadership and he left the impress of his individuality for good upon the community in which he made his home.

James Blakely Williams, son of Major Williams, became a resident of Fort Dodge when thirteen years of age. He pursued his education under the direction of his father and when the Civil war broke out enlisted as a member of Company I, of the Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, under Major Hutchinson, continuing at the front throughout the period of hostilities. He was a fine penman, by reason of which he was detailed to act as chief clerk at headquarters under General A. J. Smith. Following the war he returned to Fort Dodge, where he opened a set of

abstract books of the county, and continued in the abstract business until his death, having as his partner his niece, Miss Maude Lauderdale, who now owns the books and the business and is well known in Webster county as the present incumbent in the office of county recorder. Like his father, James B. Williams was active in promoting the welfare, upbuilding and progress of Fort Dodge along many lines. In his business affairs he was ever methodical and systematic, his records being accurate and reliable, while his books were a marvel of neatness. He was one of the best known men in the county and none were held in higher regard.

On the 2d of June, 1862, James B. Williams was married, while home from the army on a furlough, to Miss Annie R. Marshall, a daughter of Robert and Mary Catharine (Luther) Marshall. Mrs. Williams was born in Brooklyn, New York, August 8, 1842, and is a granddaughter of Thomas and Fanny (Freelove) Marshall, the former a native of England and the latter of New York. Both died during the cholera epidemic in that state in 1838. They were parents of the following named: James, Thomas, Mary, Robert, John R., Sarah and Hettie. Of these the first three died of cholera. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Williams was John Luther, who married Catherine Baizley. They were both natives of New York and lived to a ripe old age.

Robert Marshall, father of Mrs. Williams, was born in New York city and while in Brooklyn was a rope manufacturer, owning an extensive factory which covered nine blocks. He removed westward in the '60s, making the journey with a company of seventeen people, and settled on the borders of Humboldt and Webster counties, where he engaged in farming. Unto him and his wife were born thirteen children, Catharine E., Robert J., Thomas A., Mary Grace, John Luther, Sadie F., Annie R., John Luther II, Margaret Antoinette, William K. and Fanny F., twins, Cornelia Cox and Fanny Freelove II. The father, Robert Marshall, died on June 26, 1875, at the age of sixty-seven years, and the mother, Mary C. (Luther) Marshall, passed away October 7, 1899, at the age of eighty-eight years.

To Mr. and Mrs. James B. Williams were born three children: Alfred and Robbie Lloyd, both now deceased; and one, who died in infancy. The death of Mr. Williams occurred August 25, 1903, when he was sixty-seven years of age. He had been almost a life-long resident of Webster county and the circle of his friends was

almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances. He was held in the highest regard by reason of his reliability in business, his loyalty and progressiveness in citizenship and his devotion to family and friends. Mrs. Williams died at Fort Dodge, on August 15, 1912.

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### HON. WILLIAM LARRABEE.

Indelibly inscribed on the pages of Iowa's history is the name of ex-Governor William Larrabee. He has ever been faultless in honor, fearless in conduct and stainless in reputation, and his record is one which reflects credit and honor upon the state that has honored him with its highest office. He was born in Ledyard, Connecticut, January 20, 1832, and is a son of Adam Larrabee, who was also born in Connecticut. His immediate ancestors were English, while those of a more remote period were French. Adam Larrabee was a student and graduate of the West Point Military Academy and served with distinction in the War of 1812, holding the rank of lieutenant. Wounds which he sustained in that war hastened his death. He married Miss Lester and they had a large family.

William Larrabee was educated in the public schools of Connecticut and at the age of nineteen years began teaching. He came to Iowa in 1853, at the age of twenty-one, and for a year engaged in teaching school in this state, being thus employed near Clermont. He afterward worked on a farm in Clayton county, being employed by Judge E. H. Williams as foreman of his large farm lying partly in Clayton and partly in Fayette counties. In 1857 he bought the flouring mills at Clermont, Iowa, and for some years devoted his attention successfully to the manufacture of flour. Later he resumed farming and before many years ranked as one of the leading agriculturists and landowners of his section of the state. He afterward became interested in banking in Clermont and in other cities and as the years went by won a substantial measure of success. At the outbreak of the Civil war he made an effort to enlist in the army but on account of physical disability was rejected. It was a matter of great grief to him that he could not become a soldier, although he made several attempts to do so. He was intensely patriotic and manifested his love of country in many ways.

On the 12th of September, 1861, Mr. Larrabee was united in marriage to Miss Anna Matilda Appelman, also a native of Connecticut, her birth having occurred at Mystic on the 13th of August, 1842. She is the eldest child of Gustavus Adolphus and Prudence Anna Appelman, whose ancestors were prominent in the affairs of their native province in Germany. Gustavus Appelman was widely known as a sea captain, following the sea for many years. At length, however, he abandoned that life and came to the west to engage in farming. He settled on a farm near the village of Clermont, Fayette county, and while living there his daughter Anna, who afterward became Mrs. Larrabee, attended the country schools until fourteen years of age. She was then sent to Mystic, Connecticut, where she entered an academy in which she spent two years. After returning to Clermont she took up the work of teaching in the village school, which had an enrollment of seventy pupils, but the young teacher was equal to the task. Her home was about a mile from the village and she followed the old Indian trails to and from the town, day after day. She had to teach all grades and for her services received a compensation of twenty-five dollars per month. With the earnings of a few months she purchased her wedding outfit. For more than fifty years she and her distinguished husband have been traveling life's pathway together, sharing each other's joys and sorrows. She has been a great help to him and Mr. Larrabee has ever given her credit in large measure for his successful career. Together they encountered all the hardships of pioneer days. At an early period their financial resources were limited but they possessed hope, character and ambition. Mrs. Larrabee, like her husband, has always kept well informed on all public questions and can discuss intelligently the important problems of the day. Moreover, she is thoroughly a home woman and presides with gracious hospitality over Montauk, their beautiful home.

The history of William Larrabee constitutes an important chapter in the history of Iowa. He has always taken a deep and helpful interest in government affairs. In 1867 he was elected to represent his district in the state senate and remained a member thereof for eighteen years. The record of scarcely any man in public life in Iowa has extended over a longer period and no one has been more commendable, honorable and useful. The republican party named him as its candidate for governor in 1885

and the people of the state supported him not only in that year but again in 1887. His administration ranks among the strongest that Iowa has had. His name was frequently mentioned for United States senator and he could have had the office for the asking but always declined the honor.

On the 12th of September, 1911, Mr. and Mrs. Larrabee celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. They are the parents of three sons and four daughters, all of whom are living, with the exception of Augusta, who was the wife of Victor B. Dolliver. The others are: Julia, the wife of Don L. Love, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Anna; William, of Clermont; Frederic, of Fort Dodge, mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Helen, the wife of C. B. Robbins, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and Charles, living at Fort Dodge. The specific and distinctive office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments but rather to leave the perpetual record establishing his character by the consensus of public opinion on the part of his fellowmen. Throughout Iowa, William Larrabee is spoken of in terms of admiration and respect. His life has been so varied, so honorable in its purpose and so far-reaching and beneficial in its effects that it has become an integral part of the history of the west and has left a deep impress upon the state of Iowa.

Since the above was written Governor Larrabee passed away, November 16, 1912.

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### PROFESSOR JOHN F. MONK.

Professor John F. Monk is one of the proprietors of Tobin College of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and has spent many years in the chair of language in that institution. He has gained prominence as a linguist and as a cultured scholar. His active connection with the college has lasted for many years and has been of aid to bring about its systematic efficiency. Under his able administration the institution has grown and has constantly broadened its field of activity and increased the facilities it offers its students.

Professor Monk was born in Springford, Ontario, Canada, December 8, 1865, and is a son of Simon N. and Frances A. (Ingram) Monk, both natives of Canada. The family is of German origin, and has been founded in America for many generations. It was represented in the Revolutionary war by the great-grandfather of our subject, who served under General Washington

as captain of artillery for seven years. In the next generation the family residence was removed from the United States to Canada and here Simon Monk, the father of our subject, was born. He engaged in agriculture and cultivated many acres of land until 1867, when he removed with his family to Iowa and located in Cedar county. He was one of the earliest settlers of this district and was entirely responsible for the high degree of cultivation to which he brought his land before his death.

He, by his career as an agriculturist, was a developing force in the progress of civilization. He made all the improvements upon his holdings, and in conjunction with his brother built the structures which protected his grain and furnished shelter for his stock. He furnished his house with goods brought through from Canada by team, and continued to operate his farm until 1901, when he retired from active life and removed to Tipton where he now resides. He is in the seventy-first year of his age and has survived his wife for two years, her death having occurred in May, 1910.

John F. Monk was reared at home and received his early education in the district schools of Cedar county. He subsequently entered the high school of Tipton and was graduated with honors after a four years' course. He made good use of his advantages and utilized every opportunity of an educational kind. He early showed the scholarly bent of his mind and was intensely interested in everything which made for a broader culture and more representative learning. He entered Valparaiso University at Valparaiso, Indiana, and was graduated from the liberal arts course of that institution in 1891. He immediately engaged in teaching and accepted a position at Panola College at Carthage, Texas, where he remained for a short period. His professional career then brought him to Mason City, Iowa, where he taught for one year before he came to Fort Dodge to accept the position as professor of languages in Tobin College. At the time of Professor Monk's original identification with this institution Mr. Tobin was in active control of its policies and continued his connection with it until his death in 1890. In that year Professor Monk, in conjunction with Mr. Findlay, purchased the property and they have controlled and directed the rapidly developing college since that time. Professor Monk is still active in the department of languages, but also gives his organizing mind and his power of direction and control to the management of the busi-

ness end of the enterprise. Under his able administration the institution has grown from a small beginning to a comparatively large educational enterprise. It enrolled four hundred students in 1912, and each year brings a substantial increase in this number. It is one of the forces in the educational world of the middle west, and the efficiency of its curriculum and the thorough equipment which it gives to its students have made its name a synonym for all that is important and useful in educational circles. Much of this prominence and prosperity are due to the well directed and concentrated efforts of Professor Monk who unites in his character the qualities of an upright and honorable business man with those of a cultured and deeply read scholar.

In August, 1892, Professor Monk was united in marriage to Miss Helen M. Anderson, a daughter of James N. and Margaret (Dougall) Anderson, both natives of Pennsylvania and both tracing their ancestral line to Scotland. At an early date the father purchased a farm in Cedar county, Iowa, which he improved and operated for many years prior to his retirement. He removed to Mount Vernon in order to give his three daughters the educational advantages offered by that city and made this his home until his death which occurred in 1900. After his demise his widow came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and bought a comfortable and commodious home in this city, where she is now residing in the seventy-third year of her age. Professor Monk and his wife are the parents of four children: Florence G., a graduate of the Fort Dodge high school, who is eighteen years of age; Melville A., whose birth occurred in 1895; Dorothy H., who was born in 1897; and John J., who is thirteen years of age.

Professor Monk's increasing distinction in the educational field has brought him recognition in many different lines. He has arduous duties as head of an important department in his college and his increasing responsibilities in its business management absorb almost his entire attention. He, however, finds time to be of able and effective service as president of the Chautauqua assembly and to his well directed management and his conspicuous organizing ability this institution owes much of its present success. He is also a director of the Fort Dodge Commercial Club and president of the official board of the Methodist church, to which he and his family give allegiance. Politically he belongs to the republican party and keeps himself well abreast of the times upon national and local issues. His educational

career, however, absorbs most of his energies and his best and most efficient work is done in that field. The quality of his attainment along this line manifests the realization of his responsibilities toward his pupils and toward educational circles at large. He labors incessantly to make his college broad and to develop it along cultural lines. He has won success in his ambitious endeavors and his prosperity lies along the road of well directed effort.

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#### CLEM A. BOHNENKAMP.

Clem A. Bohnenkamp, proprietor and editor of The Duncombe Tribune, is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Carroll county, on the 23d of February, 1877. His parents are John H. and Caroline (Bruning) Bohnenkamp, natives, respectively, of Germany and Wisconsin. The father emigrated to the United States in his boyhood with his parents, who located in Delaware county, Iowa. There he was reared to manhood and educated, subsequently engaging in farming for a year. At the expiration of that time he engaged in the live-stock business in Breda, this state, with which he was identified for fifteen years. He then disposed of his interests in this connection and opened a meat market in the same place, which he is still conducting. The mother is also living. They are the parents of ten living children, eight sons and two daughters.

Reared at home, the education of Clem A. Bohnenkamp was obtained in the public schools of Breda, Carroll county, which he attended until graduated at the age of fourteen years. Upon the termination of his student days he learned the printer's trade and also qualified himself for a newspaper career. Diligent and enterprising, he early manifested unusual business ability and at the age of seventeen years bought out the Breda Watchman, a weekly journal, which he successfully edited for fifteen years. At the expiration of that time he removed with his plant to Duncombe and, in May, 1909, established and issued the first copy of The Duncombe Tribune. It is a clean, wholesome, newsy sheet and independent in politics. Although it has only been founded three years, the Tribune has a large and constantly increasing circulation, as it stands for progress and enthusiastically cham-

pions every movement which will tend to promote the development of the community or advance the interests of the town. Mr. Bohnenkamp has a well equipped plant for a town of the size and is prepared to do all kinds of job work, of which he makes a specialty.

Mr. Bohnenkamp has been twice married, his first union having been with Miss Christina Ricke, a daughter of Richard and Mary Ricke, the event being celebrated on the 15th of February, 1898. Five children were born of this marriage, as follows: Richard, who is twelve years of age; Drusilla, who is eight; Lillian, who died in 1904, at the age of a year and a half; one who died at the age of six months in 1907; and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Bohnenkamp is also deceased, having passed away in February, 1909, after an illness of three months. On January 6, 1910, Mr. Bohnenkamp married Miss Josephine Meder, a daughter of J. H. and Mary Meder, natives of Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Bohnenkamp are members of the Roman Catholic church, and fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America. He supports the democratic party and while living in Breda served for several years as city clerk. He takes an active interest in all local enterprises and is secretary of the Farmers Cooperative Elevator Company of Duncombe. Mr. Bohnenkamp is a most desirable citizen and takes an active interest in the development of the town, where he owns his residence and a thriving business.

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### JAMES CAMPBELL.

James Campbell, who is the successful owner and manager of a brick and tile plant at Lehigh, was born in Manhattan, Illinois, May 4, 1863. He was reared in Manhattan and in early youth worked on a farm in that district, where he remained until he removed to Iowa, locating in Lehigh. Here he became interested in the enterprise which he now owns, a brick and tile factory, which was opened in October, 1901, under the firm name of Straight & Campbell, his partner being W. A. Straight. In January, 1904, Mr. Campbell purchased the interest of Mr. Straight and took over the management of the factory. He improved and enlarged the plant so that its output was greatly increased. The factory has a steam dryer and turns

out a high grade of brick and tile and our subject employs about thirty-five men. The brickyard occupies about nineteen acres of land, which is under two roofs, and it is equipped with an electric light plant. Mr. Campbell has other interests also, being president of the Alberta Clay & Pottery Company of Medicine Hat, Canada.

In 1904, James Campbell was united in marriage to Miss Viola Marsh, a native of this county, and a daughter of George W. Marsh, who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are the parents of one son, George A., who was born December 17, 1908. In his political views Mr. Campbell is democratic but he never has sought or cared for public office. He is a successful business man and has worked his way upward until he is today accounted one of the prosperous citizens of Lehigh. He is practical and systematic and has gained that measure of success which usually follows earnest, persistent and well directed labor. He has a wide circle of acquaintances and stands high in the regard of all who know him.

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#### FLOYD BENJAMIN OLNEY, M. D.

Dr. Floyd Benjamin Olney, who occupies a foremost position in professional ranks in Webster county, is a well known physician and surgeon of Fort Dodge, where he has practiced continuously for more than three decades. His birth occurred in South Toledo, Ohio, on the 20th of November, 1851, his parents being Dr. Stephen B. and Stella (Badger) Olney, the former a native of Saratoga, New York, and the latter of Painesville, Ohio. The first representative of the family in this country was Thomas Olney, who came from England in 1631, locating in Massachusetts and subsequently going with Roger Williams to Rhode Island, where he afterward succeeded the latter in the ministry. Benjamin Olney, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Rhode Island and a farmer by occupation. The maternal grandfather was born in Massachusetts.

Stephen Berry Olney, the father of Dr. F. B. Olney, was a youth of twelve years when he removed with his parents to north-western Ohio and was there reared to manhood on a farm. He later studied medicine and surgery, practicing first in South Toledo, Ohio, and subsequently spending a short time at Adrian, Michigan. In the spring of 1855 he came to Fort Dodge, Iowa,



*F. B. Olney.*



and here successfully practiced his profession until 1888. From 1862 until 1865 he did valuable service for the Union as surgeon of the Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry. In 1890 he removed to Hammonton, New Jersey, where he passed away on the 31st of March, 1891, when sixty-nine years of age. His widow then returned to Fort Dodge but later took up her abode at Clarkston, Washington, and in 1908 removed to Modesto, California, where she died in 1909 at the age of eighty-seven years. Dr. Stephen Olney was a Baptist in religious faith and his wife was a Presbyterian. There being no churches of those denominations in Fort Dodge, they became affiliated with the Episcopalians. After her husband's demise Mrs. Olney returned to the Presbyterian church but she died in the Adventists' faith. Dr. Olney was republican in his political views, served as one of the early officers of the Fort Dodge school board and was also a prominent Mason. To him and his wife were born five children, as follows: Floyd Benjamin, of this review; Edith Adelaide, the wife of Thaddeus Green, of Pomona, California; Charles Crary Olney, who is a resident of Conconolly, Washington; Edward B., of Washington, D. C.; and Mary Elizabeth, an osteopathic physician of Pomeroy, Washington.

Floyd B. Olney was four years of age when brought to Fort Dodge by his parents and has here resided continuously since, with the exception of about ten years. He attended the public schools and was a member of the first graduating class from the high school. After putting aside his text-books he learned the printer's trade and as a representative of the "art preservative" worked on a number of city papers, including the Chicago Tribune. Later he devoted his attention to the study of medicine and in 1881 was graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago. Fort Dodge has been the scene of his professional labors throughout the intervening period of thirty-one years, and the extensive practice accorded him is unmistakable proof of his skill and ability in the line of his chosen vocation. He is a member of the Webster County Medical Society and the Iowa State Medical Society, and thus keeps in close touch with the progress of the profession.

• On the 5th of April, 1877, Dr. Olney was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Elizabeth Greig, a native of Nunda, New York, and a daughter of Alexander W. and Melinda (George) Greig, who were born in New York and New Hampshire respectively.

The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Olney was George Greig. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander W. Greig were the parents of one son and four daughters, namely: Hattie, Mattie, Carrie, Georgia and Charles D. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Olney have been born four children, as follows: Kate, who died in 1899 when twenty years of age; Anne, who is a graduate of Michigan University at Ann Arbor and is now a teacher of Latin and German in the Burlington high school; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Nathan Barr Jones and resides in St. Maries, Idaho; and Doris, who is the wife of Benjamin Harrison Merritt and lives on a farm near Hereford, Colorado.

Dr. Olney gives his political allegiance to the republican party and served as pension surgeon for a number of years. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to Ashlar Lodge, No. 111, F. & A. M.; Delta Chapter, No. 51, R. A. M.; and Calvary Commandery, No. 24, K. T. He is likewise connected with the Red Men and the Woodmen of the World. Both Dr. Olney and his wife are members of the Christian church, the former acting as church trustee. In all the relations of life he has stood as a man among men, accepting no false standards, holding to high ideals and exemplifying his sympathy with the world's progress in his own life.

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#### ARTHUR C. LINDBERG.

On the roster of county officials in Webster county appears the name of Arthur C. Lindberg, who is filling the position of treasurer. On the whole the county has been signally favored in the class of men who have occupied its public offices, for they have been loyal to the interests entrusted to their care and have sought the welfare of the many rather than of the few. A representative of this class is Mr. Lindberg, who is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Dayton, March 19, 1879. The family comes of Swedish ancestry. John A. Lindberg, the grandfather, was a native of Sweden and became an early settler of Knox county, Illinois, whence he removed to Webster county in 1854. He cast his lot with its early settlers and followed the occupation of farming. Both he and his wife lived to a ripe old age and they reared four children, including Mary, Lenore and

John A. Lindberg. The last named was born in Knox county, Illinois, but was reared upon the homestead farm in Webster county, early becoming familiar with all of the experiences and incidents of frontier life. He supplemented his early education by a course in the State University of Iowa and was graduated from its law department. He practiced law for a time but turned his attention to newspaper publication in the '70s, becoming owner and publisher of the *Dayton Review* at Dayton, Iowa. He remained at the head of that paper until 1894, when he sold out and he has since given his attention to financial and real-estate interests, having throughout the intervening period been president of the Farmers State Bank of Dayton. He engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business there and has a large clientage that makes his business a profitable one. His judgment is sound and his discrimination keen, while his enterprise is unfaltering. He votes with the republican party and for thirty years has served as justice of the peace. What higher proof could be given of faithful and efficient service in office? He has also served as mayor of Dayton for a number of terms, giving to the city a business-like and public-spirited administration which has brought about various useful reforms and improvements. He married Amelia A. Brundien, a native of Knox county, Illinois, where her parents settled at an early date. Her family became early residents of Webster county and her father followed farming near Dayton. He was killed in a runaway accident when he and one of his daughters were on their way to Fort Dodge. He was, at that time, about fifty years of age. His wife lived to be more than eighty years of age. In their family were but two children, Peter and Amelia. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Lindberg had two children: Clarence J., a resident of Edna, Texas; and Arthur C.

Arthur C. Lindberg was reared in Dayton and attended the public schools there. The experiences of his youth were such as most boys have, and with the completion of his education he turned his attention to the business world in search of a position that would yield him a good living. In 1896 he entered the Farmers State Bank of Dayton as bookkeeper and was later assistant cashier. On the 1st of January, 1907, he became deputy county treasurer under Peter Hadley and he was elected county treasurer in November, 1910, assuming the duties of the position on the 1st of January following, so that he is now the incumbent in that office. His previous experience as deputy well qualified

him for his duties in this connection and he is making an excellent record for efficiency. For several years he was city clerk at Dayton.

Arthur C. Lindberg holds membership with the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Ancient Order of United Workmen and he is secretary of the local Country Club. His political allegiance is given the republican party and he is popular and well liked wherever known. He has a wide acquaintance in this county, where his entire life has been passed, and the record he is making is a creditable one.

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#### EDWARD E. HASTINGS, D. D.

Dr. Edward E. Hastings, who has been pastor of the First Presbyterian church for the past five years, is one of the most highly esteemed and influential citizens of Fort Dodge. He was born at Carroll, Iowa, on the 25th of September, 1871, and is a son of E. R. and Kate M. (Manning) Hastings. The father was a native of Ohio, whence he removed to Wisconsin, coming from there to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in the early '60s. He completed his education at Western College, Western, Iowa, and was subsequently admitted to the bar, but soon withdrew from the law and turned his attention to newspaper work, following this during the remainder of his life. During the early period of his journalistic career he purchased a half interest in the "Carroll Herald," Carroll, Iowa, later becoming the sole proprietor. He was a man of fine mental attainments and a forceful writer, and readily became recognized as one of the foremost newspaper men in northwestern Iowa. He always took an active interest in political affairs and became one of the republican leaders in that section of the state, his paper heartily indorsing and championing the principles of this party. While still in his prime, Mr. Hastings was compelled to give up his work owing to failing health, and sold the Herald to John B. Hungerford, the present owner. He continued to make his home in Carroll, however, and there he passed away in 1886. He was one of the most widely known men in the county, as in addition to editing his paper he served as postmaster at Carroll for twelve years, discharging the duties of this office in a highly efficient and capable manner. The

mother, who is a native of Indiana, is still living and now makes her home with our subject.

Dr. Hastings was reared amid the refining influences of a good home, and from early childhood had the advantages of an intellectual and cultured environment. At the usual age he entered the public schools of Carroll, continuing his studies there until graduated from high school. In the autumn, following, he entered Coe College at Cedar Rapids, being awarded the degree of Ph. B. from this institution with the class of 1893. Having decided to become a minister, he subsequently matriculated in the McCormick Theological Seminary at Chicago, having been licensed by the Cedar Rapids Presbytery and received as a student for the ministry from the First Presbyterian church of Cedar Rapids, of which Dr. E. R. Burkholder was then pastor. Dr. Hastings graduated from the seminary in 1896 and was ordained by the Presbytery of Sioux City, Iowa. He began his ministerial duties as pastor of the church at Odebolt, Iowa, remaining there for four years. During the period of his pastorate he greatly increased the membership of the church and erected and dedicated a beautiful new house of worship. From there he went to Inwood, Lyon county, but he resigned his charge eighteen months later in order to accept a call to the First Presbyterian church of Grundy Center, Iowa, which is in the Waterloo Presbytery. In 1907, Dr. Hastings came to Fort Dodge, as pastor of the First church of this city. The possessor of rare spiritual and mental qualities, a pleasing personality and fine presence, he has proven to be a most influential factor in the community and is accomplishing excellent results. His discourses are scholarly and highly creditable achievements, manifesting careful preparation and deep thinking; their power being greatly increased by his able delivery. He has one of the largest congregations in the city, and the church and its various organizations are thriving, the work of the different departments being carried on in a most enthusiastic and capable manner under his leadership.

At Carroll, Iowa, on the 23rd of October, 1894, Dr. Hastings was united in marriage to Miss May T. Bailey, a former school and college mate, and a daughter of Dr. T. S. and Helen (Gee) Bailey. Dr. Bailey is a native of Ohio and was educated at the Ohio State University at Columbus, being a member of the class of '69. He subsequently entered the Presbyterian Ministry and held many important charges in Ohio and Iowa, and for sixteen years was

synodical superintendent of home missions of the Presbyterian church of Iowa. He made his home in Carroll for some years, but he has now retired and he and his wife are residing in Cedar Rapids. Dr. Bailey is an honored veteran of the Civil war, having remained at the front from the opening of hostilities until honorably discharged after the close of the siege of Vicksburg, where he lost an arm. Dr. and Mrs. Hastings have three children, all of whom are students of the public schools. In order of birth they are as follows: Eugene, who is fifteen years of age; Robert, who has passed the thirteenth anniversary of his birth; and Catherine, who is looking forward to her tenth birthday.

Mrs. Hastings is a very active church worker and has been of invaluable assistance to her husband in the discharge of his multitudinous duties. She is a member of the Waukonsa Club, and is interested in promoting the intellectual development of the community. The political views of Dr. Hastings coincide with the principles of the republican party, but he very often casts an independent ballot at municipal elections, considering that it is more a question of the man best adapted for the office than of political issues. He was chosen as a member of the board of trustees of Coe College in 1902, and three years later his alma mater honored him with the degree of doctor of divinity. He is now and has been for some time secretary of the Synodical Board of Iowa Home Missions of the Presbyterian church, and he has held other positions of responsibility and trust in connection with the various organizations of the church. Dr. Hastings has acquired much more than a local reputation and is numbered among the most scholarly and able ministers in this section of the state.

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### JOHN D. DWYER.

The present mayor of Barnum is John D. Dwyer, a type of public official who is a force in the growth and development of the community. He is one of the sterling and substantial citizens of Webster county and for many years was successful as general agriculturist and stock-raiser, although he has now definitely abandoned this phase of occupation and has taken up his residence in Barnum, where he has a comfortable and attractive home. Mr. Dwyer was born in Ireland, February 14, 1841, and is

a son of John and Johannah (Dee) Dwyer, also natives of the Emerald isle. The father was a farmer and came to this country in 1851, settling first in Clinton county, New York, where he bought and improved a farm which he operated until the end of his life. He died in June, 1863, and was survived by his wife until 1906, when she died at the age of ninety-three years.

John Dwyer attended the public schools of his native country until he was ten years of age, completing his education in Vermont. After laying aside his books he learned the trade of carpentering, working at that occupation for a number of years in New York, Michigan, Iowa and Illinois. He eventually went to Fort Dodge, Iowa, locating in that city in 1869. Here he worked at his trade until 1871, when he went to Chicago, Illinois, on account of work to be obtained there, as result of the great fire. Here he followed carpentering for two years, going to New York at the end of that time and spending one year in the latter city. He then returned to Webster county, where he bought eighty acres of land in Johnson township, to which he later added at various times until he owned two hundred and eighty acres. He was also the proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota. For fourteen years he carried on general agricultural pursuits upon a tract of land in Webster county and met with a gratifying degree of success at that occupation and at stock-raising, which he subsequently added to his activities. In 1891, however, he retired and moved to Barnum, where he purchased thirty-seven acres of town property and upon it built a beautiful and modern home, where he has resided since that time. He is interested in the growth and development of the village and is always eager to do his part in promoting it, and is ranked among the progressive, substantial and enterprising citizens of his district.

Mr. Dwyer was married in October, 1875, to Miss Mary O'Neal, who was born in Troy, New York, and a daughter of Timothy and Honora (Ryan) O'Neal, natives of Ireland. The parents came to this country at an early date and settled in Clinton county, New York, where the father farmed until his death, which occurred in 1871. His wife survived him by three years. They had six children besides the wife of our subject, of whom all grew to maturity and two sons are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer have two daughters: Alice S., who attended St. Joseph's Academy at Des Moines, Iowa; and Mary L., attending Corpus Christi

Academy of Fort Dodge. Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer are well known and highly respected citizens of Barnum and are highly esteemed for the kindly and charitable impulses which have been forces in their lives.

Mr. Dwyer is prominent in local republican politics. He served as assessor of Johnson township for four terms and also as trustee and school director. He was elected mayor of Barnum in 1909 and is still serving, discharging his duties in a prompt and capable manner, which has won him uniform commendation and approval. All movements which tend to promote the public welfare receive his sanction and support and he stands as one of the progressive residents of the city.

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#### A. J. EKFELT.

A. J. Ekfelt, who lives retired in Burnside, has served as justice of the peace of Burnside township for eighteen years. He was born in the central part of Sweden, April 18, 1835. He there received a practical education and in 1868, with his family, came to America, making his way direct to Iowa and locating in Des Moines. In that city he worked by the day for ten years and then removed to Dayton, Iowa, and engaged in farming for about eleven years. Subsequently he came to Burnside township, locating west of Burnside, on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and residing there until 1908, when he sold the farm and retired to the town of Burnside, where he now lives. His son resides on the old home farm. Mr. Ekfelt was very successful in farming and is, therefore, enjoying a comfortable competence.

In Sweden Mr. Ekfelt was united in marriage to Miss Mary Carlson, a native of that country, and they have become the parents of four children: Andrew, of Burnside, and Ellen, of Des Moines, both of whom were born in Sweden; and Henry and Emil, both of whom were born in Des Moines. In his political views Mr. Ekfelt is a republican and he has served on several occasions as juryman at Fort Dodge, Iowa. For the past eighteen years he has been justice of the peace of Burnside township. He has ever taken an active and helpful interest in educational advancement and for sixteen years was a member of the school board of Burnside township. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of

Odd Fellows at Kalo, Iowa. Mr. Ekfelt has resided in this country for more than forty-four years and throughout that time has been an active, helpful and highly honored citizen, who well deserves mention in this volume.

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### BERT BLAINE BURNQUIST.

Bert Blaine Burnquist is well known as an able lawyer and his name is also on the roster of county officials for in the fall of 1910 he was elected to the position of county attorney. Webster county claims him as one of her native sons, his birth having occurred in Dayton on the 1st of May, 1884. His parents were Samuel and Caroline (Peterson) Burnquist, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The former was a son of Andrew and Catharine A. Burnquist, farming people of Sweden, who, on coming to the new world settled in Dayton, Iowa, where both passed away, the former reaching the age of four score years, while the latter was eighty-seven years of age at the time of her demise. They had two sons, John A. and Samuel. The latter was a lad of twelve or thirteen years when the family sailed to the United States, and after living for a time in Illinois became a resident of Iowa. He spent a few years on a farm in the vicinity of Dayton and then turned his attention to general merchandising, which he followed in Dayton to the time of his death. He passed away in 1895 at the age of forty-five years, and his wife is still surviving him, and makes her home in Fort Dodge. She holds membership in the Lutheran church to which her husband also belonged. At the time of his death Samuel Burnquist was a member of the Iowa legislature. His interest in public affairs ever was that of a citizen who stood for progress and improvement. In early manhood he wedded Caroline Peterson, a native of Sweden, and they became the parents of two sons who reached adult age, Samuel A. and Bert B. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Burnquist married Frank A. Dowd, but she is again a widow. She is a daughter of S. P. and Mary Peterson, natives of Sweden. Her father engaged in farming until he retired from business activities in his later years. He came with his family to Iowa about 1866 and died in Dayton at the age of eighty-one, while his wife passed away at the age of seventy years. They

had six children: Charles; John P.; Jonas; Caroline; Ida, who married Henry Oleson; and Mary, who died in early life.

Bert B. Burnquist was reared in Dayton, Iowa, and in 1898 came to Fort Dodge, where he has since made his home. He attended the public schools in both cities and was graduated from the Fort Dodge high school with the class of 1901. Desirous of entering upon a professional career he recognized the fact that the first step in that direction was the acquirement of a still broader education and accordingly he entered the University of Iowa, completing a course in the collegiate department in 1905. He was graduated from the law school in 1907 and in the same year was admitted to the bar, after which he opened an office in Fort Dodge, where he has since practiced. He is a member of the law firm, Healy, Burnquist & Thomas. He prepares his cases with thoroughness and care and has won favorable criticism for the systematic methods which he uses. In the fall of 1910 he was elected county attorney and he is still acting in that capacity. He has business interests aside from his profession, being a director of the Farmers State Bank of Dayton, the secretary of the Iowa Grocery Company, wholesalers, and the owner of a farm of two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land in Boone county, Iowa. His judgment in financial, commercial and agricultural affairs is accurate and the analytical turn of his mind enables him readily to understand the features of every situation, business or otherwise.

Bert Blaine Burnquist belongs to Ashley Lodge, F. & A. M.; Delta Chapter, R. A. M.; Calvary Commandery, K. T.; and Za-Ga-Zig Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is also connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and with the Red Men and his political allegiance has been given to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise.

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#### ARMANIS FREY PATTON.

The name of Patton is recognized and honored in every community where representatives of the same settled and it is highly esteemed because each succeeding generation has upheld the traditions and standards which have made their lives upright

and their characters worthy. At the present time Armanis Frey Patton is living in Gowrie, where he is well known as a journalist and business man. The family record begins with Robert Patton, the grandfather of our subject, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1818 and who emigrated to Ohio with his parents when he was still a boy. A short time afterward his father died and he was obliged to earn his own living. He chose the blacksmith's trade for his life work and followed it for a number of years. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted at Belle Center, Ohio, in Company D, Forty-Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served until June 12, 1865, when he was mustered out at Camp Harker, Tennessee. He was with Wolford's cavalry on the famous Morgan raid and helped in the capture of Morgan. He was also present at the siege of Knoxville, Tennessee, and served during the Atlanta campaign. He married for the first time Miss Martha Hull, a daughter of Nathaniel and Nancy (Wyat) Hull, of Waldo, Marion county, Ohio. To this union were born thirteen children: Evaline, Nathaniel Hull, William Henry Harrison, James Elias, Emily, Elizabeth, Murry Buck, Ellen, Emaline, Charles, Emma, Martha, and one who was born dead. Mrs. Patton died at Bloomfield, Ohio, June 8, 1856, when she was thirty-seven years of age.

The fourth child born to Robert Patton and his wife, James Elias Patton, was the father of the subject of this sketch. He was born in Waldo, Marion county, Ohio, April 28, 1841, and moved with his parents when he was three years of age to Woodbury, Ohio, whence three or four years later they went to Bloomfield, Morrow county, in the same state. When he was about twelve years of age he began to learn the blacksmith's trade from his father and continued to work at his chosen occupation until after he moved to Centerville, Ohio. On April 18, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at Columbus, for ninety days. Through some misunderstanding with the colonel of the regiment he was sent home on a thirty day furlough to await his discharge and during this period joined the regular army, being the second man to enlist in the Eighteenth United States Regulars, being mustered in July 9, 1861. He served two terms as a member of this regiment and received his final discharge at Fort Saunders, Dakota territory, October 5, 1867. He was out of the service from July 9, 1864, to October 5th of the same year. He participated in many of the principal engagements

of the Civil war, among which may be mentioned those of Mill Springs, Kentucky; the siege of Corinth; the battles of Houver Gap (Tennessee), Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge; and all the battles of the Atlanta campaign, which occurred before the army got within nine miles of the city. After the battle of Pumpkin Vine Ridge, Georgia, which occurred May 29, 1864, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant major and twice given special mention in the official records for bravery. His first term of enlistment expired in 1864, and on October 5th of the same year he reenlisted in the same regiment, spending the first year drilling recruits. During the following winter he was appointed quartermaster sergeant for the Third Battalion and stayed at regimental headquarters at Columbus. From here, on October 19, 1865, he went to Fort Kearney, Nebraska, and was there appointed post sergeant major and in the same year was advanced to the position of ordnance sergeant of the post. He was stationed successively at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and at Camp Douglas, Utah, where he served as ordnance sergeant until April, when the Third Battalion of the Eleventh United States Infantry was made into the Thirty-Sixth United States Infantry, at the reorganization of the army at the close of the war. He was stationed with his regiment at Fort Saunders, Dakota territory, and there remained until October 5, 1867, when he received his final discharge as quartermaster sergeant.

On returning to Bloomfield, Ohio, he rode over the first five hundred miles of the Union Pacific Railroad. After his arrival in the city he went to work at the blacksmith's trade and remained in Bloomfield until March 1, 1868, when he went to Buford, in the same state, where he again worked at his chosen occupation. From Buford he went to Council Bluffs and from there to Macedonia, Iowa, where he started a blacksmith shop on May 18, 1874. He still resides in this city and is one of the prominent and successful men of his community. He and his family have lived in Macedonia continuously since the time of his original settlement. A short period was, however, spent traveling in the Black Hills and in Yellowstone Park. He is now living retired. He married December 16, 1868, Miss Mary Ellen Frey, and they became the parents of seven children: Martha Ann May, who was born at Buford, Ohio, October 18, 1869; Fredrick Elmer, born in the same city, September 6, 1872; Albert Edgar, born in Buford, April 5, 1874; Armanis Frey, of this review; twin boys, who

were born in Macedonia, Iowa, November 3, 1882, and who died the same day; and Edna Emma, whose birth occurred in Macedonia, June 22, 1885.

Armanis Frey Patton was reared at home and the first lesson which he learned from his parents was that of the value of hard work. While he was not obliged to remain out of school and work for his living he was taught that honest toil was the greatest blessing of mankind. During the vacations he was given odd jobs and was responsible to his parents for the capable performance of his duties. He learned how to sympathize with the boy who has to ride the lead horse in the harvest field, or hoe weeds in the cornfield, because many times he did this work for his farmer friends at fifty cents a day. However, his education was not neglected. He finished the grade departments in the district schools and was one of the first class to graduate from the Macedonia high school, there being only two to finish the course mapped out by the school board that year. His classmate, who graduated with him, was Lillian B. Ashley, and the exercises took place June 29, 1893, with the principal, Miss Olive A. Benn, presiding.

Before his graduation Mr. Patton began to learn the printer's trade in the home office, working nights, mornings and Saturdays, and since that time has followed that business as his chosen occupation. On November 26, 1894, he left Macedonia for Dayton, and began work on the Dayton Review, under J. G. Durell, who at that time owned and published the paper. He retained this position until February 1, 1898, when he in partnership with Emory A. Rolfe, principal of the Dayton public schools, purchased the plant and began operating the newspaper. On October 12, 1899, they expanded their interests by purchasing the Gowrie News and conducted both papers under the name of Patton & Rolfe. Mr. Rolfe remained in Dayton to take charge of the affairs of the Review and Mr. Patton moved to Gowrie to look after the interests of the News. This partnership continued until June 1, 1900, when it was dissolved, Mr. Rolfe taking full control of the Dayton paper and Mr. Patton retaining the Gowrie News.

On April 22, 1898, Mr. Patton was united in marriage to Miss Anna Adella Vederstrom, who was born at Norrkoping, Sweden, April 29, 1879. She is a daughter of Oscar and Christine Vederstrom, and she came to this country with her widowed mother when she was only three years of age. She has one brother, Axel

W., who is engaged in the heating and plumbing business at Marathon, Iowa. Mrs. Patton received a good common-school education and was graduated from the Dayton public school, June 29, 1896. Afterward she taught in the Webster county schools until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Patton have four children: Lorimer Lee, who was born May 9, 1900, attending district school; Rudolph Frey, who was born May 26, 1902, and who is attending the same school; Murray James William, who was born October 23, 1904, and who died August 6, 1905; and Harris Elric, born March 24, 1909. The family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, of Gowrie.

Mr. Patton is well known in fraternal circles of the city, holding membership in Rose Lodge, No. 506, F. & A. M., and in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also well known in the affairs of the Modern Woodmen of America and belongs to Myrtle Lodge, No. 330, Knights of Pythias. Inheriting the honorable and worthy qualities of a long line of sturdy, determined and forceful men, he has worked out an honorable destiny and accomplished a worthy success. Influenced by their traditions and principles he has ever adhered to the standards of unflinching integrity and stanch loyalty, by which they molded their upright lives and his career has added luster to an honored name.

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#### MICHAEL D. GURNETT.

Michael D. Gurnett is a native son of Iowa and his father was a pioneer in its development. Our subject has been a resident of Webster county since 1896, where for a time he was successful as an active agriculturist, being still an extensive owner of farm lands. He is now operating a large grain elevator in Barnum and has made his energy, determination and enterprise the basis of a distinct and substantial success. He was born in Linn county, Iowa, March 22, 1873, and is a son of Andrew and Ellen (Martin) Gurnett, natives of Ireland. His father came to America in 1850 and located in La Salle, Illinois, where he worked as a railroad brakeman for three years. At the end of that time he moved to Linn county, Iowa, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, paying six dollars per acre. He operated and improved this farm for three years and sold it at the end of that time for twelve dollars per acre. He later

purchased two hundred and forty acres at six dollars, adding to his holdings from time to time until he owned a large tract of highly cultivated land, comprising five hundred and twenty acres. He continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits upon this property until 1909, when he retired from active life and moved to the vicinity of Fairfax, where he is making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Frank Cahill. His wife passed away in 1904.

Michael D. Gurnett was reared at home and was educated in the public schools of Fairfax, Linn county, graduating with the class of 1893. For three years afterward he aided his father in the work of the farm, coming eventually to Webster county, where he rented land three miles north of Barnum in Johnson township, which he operated and developed for three years. In 1899 he abandoned agricultural pursuits and moved into Barnum, where he purchased a grain elevator which he has operated ever since. He now has one of the most prosperous commercial undertakings in the village. He has won his success by close attention to business, earnest labor and practical application of his business knowledge. He has made about fifty thousand dollars in the past sixteen years and has invested his money judiciously, being numbered among the substantial and representative citizens of the district. He owns four hundred and forty-four acres of highly improved land in Johnson and Jackson townships, one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota and a fine home in Barnum, in which he resides, beside business property in this village.

On October 22, 1902, Mr. Gurnett was united in marriage to Miss Mary Condon, a daughter of David and Ellen (Reid) Condon, natives of Ireland. Mrs. Gurnett's parents reside at No. 1321 Second avenue, South, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

In his political affiliations Mr. Gurnett is a consistent republican and has served as town treasurer of Barnum with ability. He is a stockholder in the Corn Belt Package Company of Fort Dodge and in the Barnum Telephone Company. He belongs to the Roman Catholic church and holds membership in the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is firm in his faith in the future of the middle western states and believes that the greatest opportunity offered to the young man of today is to acquire land in this section, predicting that property in Webster county will sell within the next ten years at three hundred dollars per acre. Mr. Gurnett has a thorough knowledge of real-estate values and engages to some extent along this line, buying and selling farm lands. He

has a record of sixteen years continuous identification with business in Barnum and is numbered among the progressive, enterprising and modern men of his section. He has all the qualifications of energy, buoyancy and public spirit and his personal achievements are an addition to the resources of the community in which he resides, not only as owner of an important undertaking but also in the qualities and standards of citizenship he possesses. His labors have been constantly constructive and have had practical results.

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### WILLIAM L. NICHOLSON, M. D.

The late Dr. William L. Nicholson was not only one of the pioneers of Fort Dodge, but had the additional distinction of being the second physician to locate in the city. He was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, on September 25, 1832, and was a son of Robert and Mary (Blundon) Nicholson, the father a native of England, but the mother of French extraction. In the paternal line Dr. Nicholson was a descendant of the Danish knight, Ralph Nikelsen, whose valiant service at Hastings caused William, Duke of Normandy, and subsequently king of England, to bestow upon him a large land grant in England, a coat of arms and a crest. This was a lion rampant surmounting a shield bearing three suns, two bars ermine and three bars azure with the motto "Fide et Honore." His descendant, Robert Nikelsen accompanied Henry III. to Ireland on his first invasion of that country, but the Nikelsen family did not permanently settle in Ireland until 1645. In the latter year Robert Nickolson, a captain of horse in the army of Oliver Cromwell, was given a large land grant in Counties Tipperary and Waterford by Cromwell, and the family thereafter resided on the Emerald isle.

The eldest son of his parents, Dr. Nicholson was reared on the family estate in Ireland. He inherited pronounced scholarly instincts, which were further developed by early environment and associations. His education was begun in the schools of Waterford and at the age of seven he had a very good knowledge of Latin. He attended various private schools, among them a college located on his father's estate, until old enough to enter Trinity College at Dublin, from which institution he was graduated with honors. Later he entered the University of Glasgow



*William L. Nicholson  
& Surgeon 29<sup>th</sup> Inn W.B.*

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and pursued a professional course, being graduated with the degree of M. B. in 1852. At the age of twenty-one years he left his native land and came to America, locating in Canada. Two years later, in 1855, he crossed the border into the United States, settling in Fort Dodge, Iowa. As this country was very sparsely settled at that time, there was little demand for the services of a physician, so he turned his attention to teaching and for a time conducted a private school here. As the country became better settled he withdrew from teaching and engaged in the practice of his profession. On the 16th of August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry at Fort Dodge under Captain J. Hutchisson and Colonel Scott. At Davenport on the 6th of October, he was promoted to the office of second lieutenant and in December of the same year he was appointed to the medical corps as assistant surgeon of the Twenty-ninth regiment of the Iowa Volunteer Infantry under Colonel Benton. He was subsequently made chief surgeon with the rank of major. He took part in the White River expedition in January, 1863, and that of the Yazoo Pass in the following February. He likewise participated in the battle at Helena, Arkansas, on July 4; Bayou Meto, August 27; and Little Rock, September 10. He was also at Terre Noire on the 2d of April, 1864; Elkins Ford, April 4; Prairie d'Anne, April 10 and 12; Camden, April 16; and Jenkins Ferry, April 30. At the latter point, Dr. Nicholson was taken prisoner, but his release was soon effected through an exchange of prisoners. Soon thereafter he obtained a thirty days furlough, which he passed at Fort Dodge, rejoining his regiment on the 31st of December, 1864. He was stationed at Mobile, Alabama, from March 17 to April 9, 1865, and took part in the assault on Spanish Fort, Alabama, April 8. He was present at Fort Blakely on the 9th of April and at Mobile on the 12th of that month, while he was in the Texas campaign until July, 1865. On the 10th of August he was mustered out at New Orleans, receiving his honorable discharge on the 19th of the September, following. Upon his return to Fort Dodge, he resumed his practice, continuing to be actively identified with his profession until his death. He was a very progressive man and kept in close touch with the development of his profession, and in 1882 he pursued a post-graduate course in Des Moines. The year following together with R. W. Crawford he opened a drug store here, but the heavy exactions of his prac-

tice made it impossible for him to engage in any business activities, so he soon withdrew from this. For four years prior to his death, Dr. Nicholson was in very poor health, suffering very much at times from hay fever. He was a man of remarkable versatility, and his well stored mind, ready wit and brilliant conversational powers made him a delightful companion. He was very fond of nature and although the exactions of his profession gave him very little outside time he contributed many able and scholarly articles to the "American Field." A lover of music and poetry and in fact all of the arts, he had an extensive acquaintance with the literature of practically all nations and was a poet himself of considerable ability.

Dr. Nicholson was twice married, his first union was with Miss Anna J. Leonard of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on the 31st of December, 1865, and they became the parents of one son, W. L. Nicholson, who is engaged in the lumber business in El Paso, Texas. She passed away on the 15th of January, 1875, and on the 27th of November, 1876, the Doctor was married to Miss Sarah L. Sherman, a native of County Roscommon, Ireland. Mrs. Nicholson is a daughter of James and Mary Ann (Comyns) Sherman, both natives of Ireland, but the mother was of Scotch extraction, while the paternal ancestors were Irish. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sherman died in their native land, and while still in her early childhood Mrs. Nicholson was brought to the United States, and later became a resident of Fort Dodge, where she was married. One daughter, Anna, was born to Dr. and Mrs. Nicholson. She early manifested marked musical ability and was given the advantage of studying under the best teachers in this country, after which she went abroad and was graduated from the Conservatory of Leipzig. She studied under several eminent masters elsewhere and upon her return to Fort Dodge opened a studio and has ever since been engaged in teaching. Mrs. Nicholson and her daughter live at 827 Second avenue, South, which has been the family residence for many years.

Dr. Nicholson was a communicant of the Roman Catholic church, as likewise are his widow and daughter, and he was an honored member of Fort Donelson Post, No. 236, G. A. R. of Fort Dodge. In politics he was a democrat, and served for one term as city clerk. Immediately after the close of the war he was pension examiner, being one of the first appointed to this office, and he held the same position during President Cleveland's

administration. He was a member of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association and for many years was examining physician of this organization, while up to the time of his death he was surgeon for all of the railroads running into Fort Dodge. He maintained relations with the other members of his profession through the medium of his connection with the county, district and state medical societies, and for some years was president of the District Medical Society. He enjoyed the regard and esteem of a large circle of friends, many of whom he had known from the time he came to Iowa, and has left behind him the memory of a bright, genial, kindly, helpful nature, whose ready sympathy and encouraging word won him the confidence and good-will of both young and old. He passed away on the 11th of November, 1890.

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### JOHN TODD.

John Todd, who has lived in honorable retirement at Otho for the past eight years, was for many years engaged in farming and mining in this county, winning success in both activities. His birth occurred in Wisconsin on the 1st of January, 1844, his parents being William and Mary (Warton) Todd, both of whom were natives of England. The father worked as a miner in that country until 1843, when he emigrated to the United States, locating in Illinois. After a short time, however, he removed to Wisconsin, working in the lead mines of that state until 1849. In that year he drove across the country to California and spent a year at work in the gold mines. On the journey back to Wisconsin he became ill, dying in New York in 1850. The demise of his wife occurred in 1880.

John Todd was reared and educated in his native state and after putting aside his text-books began working in the lead mines. In 1862 when a youth of eighteen, he left his widowed mother in order to join the boys in blue, becoming a member of Company F, Twentieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which command he remained until the close of hostilities between the north and the south. When the country no longer needed his military aid he returned to Wisconsin and there worked in the mines until 1869. In that year he came to Webster county, Iowa, locating in Otho township, where he was employed at digging coal. At the end of the year, however,

he returned to Wisconsin, continuing to reside in that state for seven years. On the expiration of that period he again came to this county and once more began mining here. Subsequently he purchased thirty-two acres of land and began mining coal on his own account, later also carrying on farming. He operated his thirty-two acre tract and likewise cultivated rented land. The pursuits of mining and farming claimed his attention until 1904, when he took up his abode in Otho, where he owns a handsome residence and two lots and where he has since lived in honorable retirement. He still owns his farm of thirty-two acres, situated three-fourths of a mile from Otho. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Otho and has long been numbered among the substantial and esteemed citizens of the community.

On the 10th of March, 1866, Mr. Todd was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Shipley, a daughter of Thomas and Maria (Watson) Shipley, both of whom were natives of England. Thomas Shipley, who followed mining in that country, emigrated to the United States in 1856, locating in Wisconsin, where he worked in the mines until seventy years of age. His demise occurred in that state in March, 1896, while his wife was called to her final rest in September, 1907. To Mr. and Mrs. Todd were born nine children, as follows: Eva; Cora; Agnes; Emma; Gertrude; Laura; Thomas; Floyd; and William, who passed away in 1869.

John Todd is a staunch republican, while his religious faith is that of the Methodist church. His life, lived in accordance with high principles and spent in useful endeavor, has been of valuable service to the community and makes him deserving of the respect he enjoys.

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#### S. R. E. ANDERSON.

S. R. E. Anderson, who is one of the successful business men of Gowrie, is a native of this city, born May 13, 1877. His parents were A. E. and Sophie (Anderson) Anderson, natives of Sweden. The father came to America in 1866, locating at Galesburg, Illinois, and later removed to Chicago. He afterward came to Gowrie, settling on a farm in Clay township of this county, where he resided until he died. His wife, Sophie (Anderson) Anderson is still living. In their family were nine children: Ellen, the

wife of G. B. Steinlean of Gowrie; S. R. E., of this review; E. B. of Fort Dodge; Ella, the wife of Albert Swan of Marshalltown; Teckla, who is now Mrs. France Johnson of Gowrie; Constant, who is engaged in farming; Hilma, a student of Drake University, at Des Moines; and Antonia and Edith, both of whom are at home.

S. R. E. Anderson was educated in the public schools, graduating from high school when he was nineteen years of age. He afterward completed a normal-school course. Subsequently he started in the restaurant business in Gowrie in which he remained for four years. Later he became connected with the Andrew Wood firm, dealers in general produce, remaining with them until 1907. He then took charge of the produce-commission business for Swift & Company of Chicago, with whom he has since been actively connected. He buys poultry, eggs, butter and cream and has a large and remunerative trade. Mr. Anderson has been very successful in his financial affairs and owns a fine residence here.

In February, 1899, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Martha E. Nelson, who was born in Dubuque, Iowa, a daughter of August Nelson, a resident of Gowrie. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born four children, Gulhar, Medford, Raymond, and Ardella, all of whom are at home. In his political views S. R. E. Anderson is republican and he has ever taken an active interest in the welfare of the community. He and all the members of his family belong to the Lutheran church. Fraternally he is identified with the Yeomen and the Modern Woodmen of America, at Gowrie. Having always resided in this town Mr. Anderson is well known here and his upright life and honest business methods have won for him the high regard of all with whom he has associated.

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### THOMAS ASHTON.

Thomas Ashton is a member of the firm of Ashton Brothers, conducting a grocery establishment at the corner of Twelfth street and Central avenue in Fort Dodge. The brothers, Thomas and James B. Ashton, have been successfully engaged in business together for the past twenty-eight years. Thomas Ashton was born in Lincolnshire, England, on the 13th of October, 1846, his parents being Robert and Elizabeth (Beers) Ashton, who were likewise natives of that county. His paternal grandparents, who died in England, had

one son and four daughters. Mr. and Mrs. James Beers, the maternal grandparents of our subject, were natives of Ireland and the latter died in England. Mr. Beers subsequently emigrated to the United States, passing away in New York city at an advanced age. He had two children, Elizabeth and Thomas.

Robert Ashton, the father of Thomas Ashton, was a bricklayer by trade and, coming to the new world, located at Plymouth, Michigan. Subsequently he took up his abode in Ann Arbor, that state, where his demise occurred in 1857, when he had attained the age of about forty-nine years. His wife, who survived him, passed away at the age of about sixty-eight. Both were Catholics in religious faith. Their children were eight in number, namely: Maria, who is the wife of Henry Hayler, of San Diego, California; Robert, deceased; Thomas, of this review; Hannah, the deceased wife of Patrick Sheehan, of Ann Arbor, Michigan; Theresa, who is the wife of Calvin Tryon, of Davidson Station, Michigan; Agnes, who gave her hand in marriage to Frederick Martin, of Saginaw, Michigan; James B., who is engaged in the grocery business in partnership with his brother Thomas; and John Henry, who lives near Saginaw, Michigan.

Thomas Ashton, whose name introduces this review, was a lad of five years when he accompanied his parents to the United States in 1851. He grew to manhood in Plymouth and Ann Arbor, Michigan, and vicinity, attending the public schools in the acquirement of an education. When a youth of eighteen he ran away from home to enlist for service in the Civil war, becoming a private of Company I, Fifth Michigan Cavalry. He was present at the evacuation of Petersburg and witnessed the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. When hostilities had ceased he returned to Michigan and there followed farming for about four years. In 1870 he came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and secured employment as a farm hand in Humboldt county, while subsequently he worked on a farm in Palo Alto county. In June, 1872, he returned to Fort Dodge and entered the grocery establishment of D. K. Lincoln. In that line of activity he has remained to the present time. For the past twenty-eight years he has been engaged in business in association with his brother, James B., and the firm has not only enjoyed an extensive and profitable trade but also an unassailable reputation for integrity and straightforward dealing. The Ashton Brothers carry a large line of staple and fancy groceries and are at all times in a position to meet the demands and wishes of their customers.

On the 26th of September, 1876, Mr. Ashton was united in marriage to Miss Lorena L. Martin, a native of Mineral Point, Wisconsin, where the wedding ceremony took place. Her parents, Henry and Mary Ann (Lanyon) Martin, who were born in England, became early settlers of Mineral Point, Wisconsin. Henry Martin, who was a coal, lead and gold miner, passed away when about seventy-eight years of age. His wife was seventy-two years of age when called to her final rest. Their children were as follows: Lorena, Mrs. Mary Ellen Jones and James H. Martin. To Mr. and Mrs. Ashton have been born six children, as follows: Robert Henry, Blanche Agnes, Frederick Walter and three, who died in infancy.

Mr. Ashton is a staunch republican, supporting the men and measures of that party at the polls. He belongs to Fort Donelson Post, No. 236, G. A. R., and was chosen commander of the same for the year 1912. He is widely and favorably known in Fort Dodge and Webster county and the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

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### JAMES B. ASHTON.

James B. Ashton, a member of the grocery firm of Ashton Brothers in Fort Dodge, was born at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on the 16th of December, 1855, and was reared in that city and vicinity. He obtained his education in the public schools of Ann Arbor and when in his thirteenth year began working on a farm by the month, being thus employed for a number of years. On the 7th of August, 1879, he came to Iowa, located in Fort Dodge and here clerked in a grocery store until the spring of 1882. At that time he went to Monarch, Colorado, where he clerked for one year and then embarked in business on his own account. In August, 1884, he returned to Fort Dodge and on the 1st of September, following, engaged in the grocery business in association with his brother Thomas. As above stated, the brothers have remained in business here continuously since and have won a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity.

On the 9th of December, 1885, Mr. Ashton was united in marriage to Miss Leila O. Jones, a daughter of A. W. and Cordelia (Walker) Jones. To them have been born two children: Clay B., who died at the age of two years; and James W., whose birth occurred in 1892. The mother is a devoted member of the Meth-

odist Episcopal church. Mr. Ashton gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has served as city councilman for three terms. His worth is widely acknowledged by those who know him and he has the favorable regard of a large circle of friends.

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### JUDGE ROBERT MULLINS WRIGHT.

Judge Robert Mullins Wright, who since 1906 has occupied the bench of the eleventh judicial district, entered upon his professional career well equipped by thorough and comprehensive collegiate training and in the interim since his admission to the bar has made continuous progress until Iowa today numbers him among her distinguished lawyers and jurists. He was born at Sheffield, England, November 1, 1844, and in both the paternal and maternal lines comes of English ancestry. His grandfather, Stephen Wright, born on the "Merrie Isle," was manager of an estate and to him and his wife, Matilda Wright, were born three children, Thomas, Stephen and Amy. The first named, born in England, was reared in Yorkshire and always followed farming. The agricultural opportunities of the new world, however, attracted him to America and in 1850 he crossed the Atlantic, taking up his abode near Lisbon, Kendall county, Illinois, where he remained for two or three years. He afterward removed to De Kalb county, where he passed away in 1882, at the age of eighty years. His wife survived him until 1887 and was seventy-nine years of age at the time of her demise. She, too, was born in England, as were her parents, George and Sarah (Gilot) Mullins. Her father was a farmer by occupation, thus providing for the support of his family, which numbered six children, including Robert, George, and Mary. The daughter Mary became the wife of Thomas Wright and for many years they traveled life's journey happily together. He was originally an Episcopalian in religious belief and she a member of the Congregational church, but after settling in Illinois in early days, they identified themselves with the Methodist denomination, which was the pioneer church of that state, continuing their connection with that faith until their death. In community affairs Mr. Wright was somewhat prominent, holding a number of township offices, and at all times his record measured up to high standards of manhood and citizenship. His family numbered five children, of whom the eldest, George, is deceased. Ann was the wife of William Cutts. She died

at Shabbona, De Kalb county, Illinois, in September, 1912. William was a soldier of the Civil war and was killed at the battle of Resaca. Robert M. was the next of the family. Juliana is the wife of James Spaulding, an old soldier, living near Ruthven, Iowa.

Judge Wright was but five years of age when brought to the United States and remained upon the home farm in De Kalb county, Illinois, until he entered college. He supplemented his preliminary education by a course in the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1871, while the honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him in 1874. In early manhood he devoted five years of his life to teaching school and during the last four years of that period was principal of the high school in Fort Wayne, Indiana. In July, 1876, he arrived in Fort Dodge and entered upon the practice of law here in that year, having prepared for the bar by private study at a former period. He has ever remained a close and discriminating student of the profession, reading broadly and mastering the principles of jurisprudence in large measure. He continued in active practice until 1906, when he was elected judge of the district court and is still upon the bench. His decisions are models of judicial soundness and are based upon a thorough understanding of the points presented, a comprehensive knowledge of the law and an appreciation of the equity of the case. He has not only been active in administering the law but also has taken part in framing acts which have found their way to the statute books of the state, for in 1882 he was a member of the state legislature, during which period he voted for the submission of the prohibitory amendment to the state constitution concerning intoxicating liquors and also at that time voted in favor of woman suffrage. In 1904 he was once more chosen to represent his district in the state legislature and again in 1906. He has served on some of the most important committees in the legislature, of several of which he was chairman, including the committee on constitutional amendments. He has been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party. His father was greatly opposed to slavery and Judge Wright held to the same views. Indeed, throughout his entire life he has been the opponent of any unjust domination and he stands for much that is progressive, holding to the ideal of party service for the many rather than for the few.

On the 27th of August, 1872, Judge Wright was married to Miss Elizabeth Fowler, a daughter of James and Mary Fowler. Mrs. Wright was born in Aurora, Illinois, while her parents were natives

of Ireland and of Scotch-Irish descent. They also held to the Protestant faith. After living for a time in Canada they came to the United States, settling in Aurora, Illinois, but spending their last days in De Kalb county, Illinois, where Mr. Fowler passed away at the age of eighty-two years and his wife when seventy years of age. They were the parents of six children: John, who died in the Civil war; Robert, whose death occurred in Illinois about three years ago; James, a Civil war soldier, who died at Denver, Colorado, in 1910; Mary Ann, unmarried; Mrs. Sarah Jane Howlitt, of Paw Paw, Illinois, a widow and formerly the wife of a Union veteran, who died several years ago; and Mrs. Wright. The last named died in 1889, at the age of forty-two years. She was a consistent Christian woman and held membership in the Methodist church. She became the mother of four children: Florence Eliza, who died when fourteen years of age; Herbert Francis, who died when four years of age; Roberta, the wife of Walter Merryman, manager of the Messenger Printing Office; and Elizabeth Gilot, at home. On the 27th of August, 1890, Judge Wright married Miss Hattie Maria Leonard, who was born December 9, 1858, a daughter of Dr. P. M. Leonard, of Fort Wayne, Indiana. There is one son of the second marriage, Robert Leonard Wright, now a student in the University of Iowa. Mrs. Wright is a member of the Presbyterian church. Both Judge and Mrs. Wright have a wide acquaintance in Fort Dodge and this part of the state, where he has lived continuously for thirty-six years. He has ever held closely to a high standard of professional ethics and has been an able and conscientious minister in the temple of justice. His ideals of citizenship are high and in the relations of life which are of a more strictly social character he has displayed qualities which have rendered him popular wherever he is known.

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#### ASAEL W. JONES.

Asael W. Jones, who is living retired at No. 1303 Fifth avenue, South, in Fort Dodge, has resided in this city for more than four decades and here conducted a blacksmith shop for fifteen years. Since disposing of his shop he has been engaged in the sale of agricultural implements. His birth occurred in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, in Randolph township, near Meadville, on the 4th of June, 1838, his parents being Joel and Sarah (Smith) Jones, the former a native of

Sacket Harbor, New York, and the latter of Ware, Massachusetts. His paternal grandfather, Joel Jones, who participated in the Revolutionary war, was a native of Vermont and an agriculturist by occupation. Both he and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Sprague, lived to a ripe old age. Their children were six in number. The maternal grandparents of our subject were John and Sarah Smith, the former a native of Massachusetts and a farmer by occupation.

Joel Jones, the father of Asael W. Jones, was born in 1794 and reared in the state of his nativity. When a youth of eighteen he enlisted at Sacket Harbor for service in the War of 1812. He was married in Pennsylvania and in 1846 removed westward to Illinois, locating in La Salle county, twelve miles north of Ottawa, on the old Shabbona Indian trail. There he devoted his attention to farming and spent the remainder of his life, passing away at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife died three years later, when seventy-nine years old. Both were Methodists in religious faith. Mr. Jones held various township offices and was well educated, following the profession of school teaching in early manhood. All of his children received a good college education. To Joel and Sarah (Smith) Jones were born the following children: V. B., who served as a Union soldier during the Civil war; Heppa Julietta; Sarasa Marilla; Sarah Ermina; Luther Alvera; Joel Adna, who also participated in the Civil war; and Asael Wadworth, of this review.

Asael Wadworth Jones was reared to manhood in Illinois and obtained his early education in the public schools of La Salle county. He then removed to Wheaton and spent four years as a student in Wheaton College. Subsequently he learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for many years. In 1870 he came to Iowa and throughout the intervening forty-two years has made his home in Fort Dodge. He successfully conducted a blacksmith shop here for fifteen years and then sold out, since which time he has been a salesman in the service of a firm dealing in agricultural implements.

On the 17th of March, 1860, Asael W. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Cordelia A. Walker, a native of Ohio, the ceremony taking place on the eighteenth birthday of the bride. Her parents, C. W. and Keziah Walker, were also natives of the Buckeye state and became early settlers of Henry, Marshall county, Illinois. They came to Iowa in 1869 and passed away at Fort Dodge. Their children were seven in number, Cordelia, Orselia, Livona, Emma, Flora, Mary and Carrie. To Mr. and Mrs. Jones were born five children. Fred

E., who is superintendent of the government telephone system at Phoenix, Arizona, wedded Miss Sarah Blaine, by whom he has five children, Harry E., Belle J., De Merritt, Maude and Bernice. Leila Orselia, who lives in Fort Dodge, is the wife of J. B. Ashton and the mother of one son, Jay. Joel Othello, deceased, was a telephone man. His widow, who bore the maiden name of Jennie Pace, resides in Webster City, Iowa, with her four children, Wilbur, Hazel, Dorothy and Herbert. Minnie May gave her hand in marriage to E. H. Martin of Webster City, a telephone man. They have two sons, Fred N. and Glen. Delia Edith Jones is the other member of our subject's family. The wife and mother was called to her final rest in 1890, when forty-eight years of age, passing away in the faith of the Methodist church. Mr. Jones is a devoted member of that church. He has passed the seventy-fourth milestone on life's journey and enjoys the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one who has traveled thus far on this-earthly pilgrimage and whose life has been at all times upright and honorable.

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#### OLE C. HANSON.

Ole C. Hanson, manager of the Otho Mercantile Company, is numbered among the worthy native sons and representative citizens of Webster county and has for the past eight years served as clerk of Otho township. His birth occurred in Badger township in December, 1883, his parents being Olaf and Ingeborg (Larson) Hanson, both of whom are natives of Norway. Emigrating to the United states, they took up their abode at Badger, Webster county, Iowa, in 1882. Olaf Hanson managed a store in Norway and after coming to this country acted as section foreman for the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad until about 1908, when he became paralyzed. In 1892 he took up his abode in Otho, where he still resides at the age of fifty-four years, enjoying an enviable position in the regard and esteem of his fellow townsmen. His wife has also attained the age of fifty-four years.

Ole C. Hanson was reared and educated in Webster county, attending school until twelve years of age. Being one of a large family of children, he was then obliged to provide for his own support and entered the general store of Dawson & Wonders at Otho, in which he remained for three years. Subsequently he spent four years in the

employ of Dawson & Green and on the expiration of that period went to Kalo, where he worked in the general store of Mr. Apland for four years. At the end of that time he returned to Otho and accepted the position of manager with the Otho Mercantile Company, which office he has since retained, being also a stockholder of the concern. The continued growth and success of the establishment is attributable in large measure to the good judgment and capable management of our subject. In 1908 the company erected the large and handsome two-story brick building in which they have since conducted business, carrying an extensive and complete line of goods at attractive prices and being accorded an excellent patronage. Mr. Hanson owns a good and commodious home in Otho. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company here.

On the 15th of June, 1904, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Ballantyne, a daughter of Sandy and Lizzie Ballantyne, natives of Scotland. They have two children, Ivan and Melva, who are seven and four years of age respectively.

Ole C. Hanson is a staunch republican. He has served as clerk of Otho township for the past eight years and at the present time is also acting as assistant postmaster of Otho, discharging his duties in both connections with signal promptness and ability. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. In religious faith he is a Methodist. He has already won a creditable place in business circles for one of his years and enjoys an extensive and favorable acquaintance in the county in which his entire life has been spent.

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#### F. M. SPRINGER.

F. M. Springer, who is successfully engaged in farming in Webster county, is the owner of an excellent tract of one hundred acres, on section 34, Roland township. He was born in Stark county, Illinois, August 17, 1856, a son of David and Mary (Chandler) Springer. The father was born in Ohio and in his youth removed from that state to Illinois, where he resided until 1874, when he came to Iowa, settling near Paton, Greene county. In 1883 he came to Webster county and located on a tract of land on section 34, Roland township. He improved and cultivated this farm and resided there until his death which occurred in 1909. He was a successful farmer and

stock-raiser, and became one of the substantial residents of this section of the country. His wife is now living on the old homestead. In their family were six children: James Harvey, who is deceased; F. M., the subject of this review; G. F., who is a farmer in Roland township; Elmer, who resides with his mother; Mrs. Christine Young of Fort Dodge, Iowa; and Ella, deceased.

F. M. Springer received his education in the common schools of Illinois and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-one years of age. He then started out in life for himself and was employed for some time on a farm, but afterward returned home and remained there until he was thirty-two years of age. He then located on his present farm of one hundred acres situated on section 34 in Roland township. He has cultivated and improved this land until he now has an excellent homestead. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land near Redfield, South Dakota.

In Gowrie, Iowa, in 1879, Mr. Springer was married to Miss Lucy J. Smith, who was born in Sullivan county, New York. To this union one child was born, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Springer have one adopted son, Mark, who is eleven years of age.

In politics Mr. Springer is republican, and both he and Mrs. Springer are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a trustee. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is progressive and energetic, and in all his social and business relations is recognized as a man of genuine worth, who has won the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come into contact.

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#### CHARLES J. SWANSTROM.

One of the highly respected citizens and retired business men of Dayton is Charles J. Swanstrom, vice president of the Farmers State Bank, who for nearly twenty years was identified with the lumber interests of the town. He was born on a farm in the Linkoping district in central Sweden, his parents being John and Johanna (Swenson) Swanstrom, both of whom are now deceased. The father was for many years engaged in farming in Sweden, where he passed away. After his death the mother made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Matilda Meline, who resided in Norrkoping, Sweden.

Charles J. Swanstrom was reared at home and attended the schools in the vicinity of his father's farm, but a large portion of his education was acquired under the instruction of his mother, who had been given the advantages of good schooling. When fifteen years of age he began to learn the cabinet-maker's trade which occupation he followed until coming to America in 1868. In accordance with the law of the land he served, at the age of twenty, two years in the Swedish army. Not foreseeing any particular advantages or opportunities for advancement in his native land, and feeling convinced that he could find such in America, he left at the age of twenty-four the land of his birth and took passage for the United States. Upon his arrival in this country he went to Galesburg, Illinois, and there found employment in a carpenter's shop. Two months later he left there and went to Peoria, Illinois, where he followed various pursuits until 1871. In the spring of that year he came to Webster county and located in Dayton. He had very little means, but an abundance of energy and determination of purpose, and felt assured that he would meet with success. He established a shop and followed the carpenter's trade with continuously increasing success until 1883. During that period he managed to accumulate sufficient means to enable him to engage in commercial activities, on a larger scale and, disposing of his shop he went into the lumber business. The reputation he had acquired for integrity and reliability proved to be an invaluable asset to him, and this together with his enterprising and energetic methods enabled him to build up a thriving enterprise. The clear judgment and intelligence he manifested in the development of his business enabled him to extend his activities and at the time of his retirement in 1901, he owned two lumberyards in Dayton. One was located at the Minneapolis & St. Paul station and the other at the Chicago & Northwestern. He is now one of the largest stockholders of the Farmers State Bank, of which he was one of the organizers. After they incorporated he was elected second vice president and retained that office for five years, when he was made vice president and has ever since served in that capacity. In addition to this he owns a half interest in a fine farm in Lost Grove township, and extensive grain lands in Canada, while he has a beautiful residence property in Dayton.

In 1871, Mr. Swanstrom was united in marriage to Miss Helena Catharine Bliss, the event being celebrated in this city. Mrs. Swanstrom, who passed away on the 21st of December, 1898, was the daughter of a soldier in the Swedish army. Six children were born

of this marriage as follows: Melvin, who died at the age of seven years; George W., a traveling salesman living at Washington, Kansas; Gus Albert, living with his father, who married Alice Johnson of Dayton and has two children, Garrial and Bliss; Harry, also living with his father; Elmer, a partner in the Dayton Hardware Company, who married Hilma Youngdell of this city; and Vera, who married Frank Donahey of Valley Junction, an employe of a Des Moines Shoe Company.

Mr. Swanstrom has attained high rank in the Masonic fraternity and belongs to the blue lodge of Dayton, commandery at Fort Dodge and Shrine at Des Moines. In politics he is a staunch republican. He has always taken an active interest in municipal affairs and served for ten years in the council and on the school board for twenty, retiring from the latter in the spring of 1911. Mr. Swanstrom is a man of many estimable qualities and by reason of his ability to dominate conditions and convert obstacles into opportunities has won the admiration of all with whom he has had dealings. He early learned that even in America success is not easily won, but must be the achievement of unceasing diligence, the intelligent concentration of power and the determination of purpose, that will not recognize defeat. His career should be a source of inspiration to every ambitious young man, as the prosperity he attained is the result of his own unaided effort, no favorable circumstances or family influence having aided him in his early struggle.

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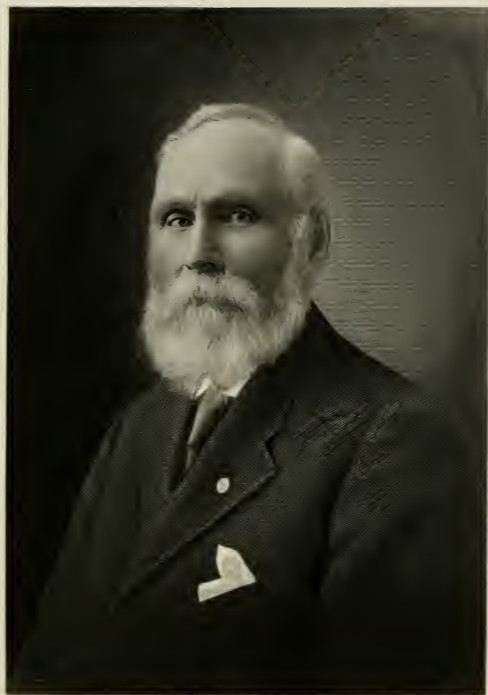
#### GEORGE D. HART, M. D.

No student of history can carry his investigations far into the records of Webster county without learning that the Hart family has figured prominently in its substantial upbuilding and development, and it is, therefore, with pleasure that we present to our readers the sketch of Dr. George D. Hart, long an able and distinguished physician of Otho, whose labors, however, have constituted but one phase of his life, for he has ever been mindful of his obligations and duties to his fellowmen and to city, state and nation. He was born in Adams county, Illinois, July 26, 1835, his parents being Norman and Marcia (Hale) Hart, who were natives of Connecticut. The father went to Adams county, Illinois, in 1834 and after a brief residence there removed to Kane county, Illinois, where he entered land from

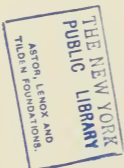




*Mrs. George L. Hart*



*Geo Hart*



the government. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made on his place and with characteristic energy he began preparing the land for cultivation. Year after year he tilled his fields until 1854, when he sold that property and removed to Webster county, entering eighty acres of land in Otho township. The other members of the family also entered land, which he improved and cultivated to the time of his death. He died suddenly on the 31st of March, 1880, having for a few years survived his wife, who passed away in February, 1875. They were, indeed, worthy pioneer settlers of this region, arriving here when there was not a single railroad in this state, while a railway line extended only half way across the state of Illinois. It was at their home on the 13th of March, 1855, that the First Congregational church of Otho was organized, these two worthy people becoming charter members and remaining faithful thereto until called to their reward. For about two years services were held at least part of the time in their home. For a long period Mr. Hart served as one of the officers of the church and his son Norman was the first superintendent of the Sunday school.

George D. Hart was reared and educated in Big Rock township, Kane county, Illinois, and there remained until nineteen years of age, when, in 1854, he accompanied his parents as they drove across the country to Webster county, Iowa. Here he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land at two dollars and a half per acre. A year after arriving here he set about improving his place and operated it from 1858 until August 16, 1862, when patriotism became the dominant element in his life and he enlisted as a member of Company I, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry. He never served in the ranks, however, for when the regiment started south from Dubuque he was left in charge of the sick at Camp Franklin and after rejoining his command at New Madrid, Missouri, on the 2d of December, following, he served as hospital warden, being thus on duty throughout the remainder of his term of enlistment. He was finally honorably discharged because of disability on the 1st of July, 1865. It was his hospital experience that laid the foundation for his profession. He became interested in the practice of medicine and on his return home pursued a course of study in the office of Dr. S. B. Olney, who was chief surgeon in his regiment. Having thus qualified for active practice, he opened an office in Otho, where he has since remained. His ability in the field of his chosen profession has been widely recognized and has grown with further reading and study, for he has kept in touch with the advanced sci-

tific methods which are the result of modern investigation. He still owns eighty acres of the land which he first purchased here on section 28, Otho township, and he has a beautiful home in the village.

On the 11th of November, 1858, Dr. Hart was married to Miss Orlinda S. Moore, who was born in Ohio on November 26, 1840, and was a daughter of Homer and Sarah (Minton) Moore, who came with their family to Iowa in 1856. In the following summer Mrs. Hart taught the first term of school and was one of the prominent pioneer women of Elkhorn township. She passed away on the 28th of January, 1883, leaving two children. Lillie H., the elder, born September 1, 1859, became the wife of Fred E. Payne and died September 30, 1898, leaving two children: Calla H., born September 6, 1881; and George E., born May 16, 1887. Hoyt N. Hart, born March 26, 1867, owns and operates a ranch at Paxton, Keith county, Nebraska. He first married Carrie M. Plummer and they had one child, Harrison Dolliver, born June 17, 1888. In 1906 Hoyt N. Hart married Miss Lula Salisbury and to them was born one child, Lois, on November 22, 1911. Dr. Hart was again married June 11, 1885, his second union being with Pervilla R. Alsever, who was born in Oswego, New York, March 20, 1857, and in 1866 came to Webster county, Iowa, with her parents, Abram and Armina (Fish) Alsever, who were natives of New York. On arriving here her father took up river land and also bought lots in the village of Burnside, where he lived until 1902, when he retired from active business life and removed to Fort Dodge. There he remained until 1909, when he took up his abode in the town of Otho, where he passed away in January, 1910. His first wife died in April, 1877, and he was subsequently married to Mrs. Annie Perry, who now makes her home in Lehigh, this county. By the second marriage of Dr. Hart there has been born one son, Seth Norman, on August 18, 1888, who was married, November 6, 1910, to Bess R. Everett and they have one son, Norman Dwight, born September 10, 1912. Seth N. Hart has since lived in Ohio, where he owns and conducts a photographic studio, enjoying a large practice. On the 12th of October, 1895, Dr. and Mrs. Hart adopted an orphan girl, Albertina Anderson, who was born March 29, 1880, and was married January 1, 1901, to Henry W. Wakeman, a farmer of Otho township. They have four children: Florence P., born December 16, 1901; Lola B., born October 29, 1903; George M., born November 15, 1905; and Lewis A., born February 3, 1908. Dr. and Mrs. Hart also adopted a son, Dwight M., a son of J. M. Moore, who was one of the early

settlers of the county. Dwight was born December 16, 1876, in Steele City, Nebraska, and in 1902 married Hattie La Valley. They have one child, Erma, born in 1903.

Aside from his activity as a physician, Dr. Hart has done well for his community in public office, serving as a trustee of his township for a number of years and also as its first road supervisor. He has been justice of the peace for three different terms and overseer of the cemetery of Otho for more than a half century. He was a charter member of Fort Donelson Post, G. A. R., of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and he has always given his political allegiance to the republican party, believing firmly in its principles. He holds membership in the First Congregational church of Otho, of which he has been a deacon since 1880. He was present on its organization, March 13, 1855, and on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary celebration. He has long taken a most active and helpful part in the church work and his aid and influence are ever given to promote the moral progress of the town and county. He has a wide acquaintance and all who know him are glad to call him friend, for his has been an upright, honorable life, bringing to him the confidence and justly merited regard of those with whom he has been associated.

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#### M. B. DALY.

M. B. Daly is one of the well known merchants of Lehigh, Webster county, Iowa, where he is successfully engaged in conducting a general mercantile store located in the Tyson block. He was born December 16, 1878, and is a son of Patrick and Anna (Halpin) Daly. The father was for some years engaged in the coal business in company with our subject, under the firm name of the Daly Coal Company, but later they sold their coal mines. The father died at the age of sixty-three years. Patrick Daly was a member of the Knights of Columbus of Fort Dodge, and he and his wife were loyal members of the Catholic church of that city and are buried at Fort Dodge. They were the parents of fourteen children, twelve of whom are living.

M. B. Daly was reared at home and received his early education in the public schools of Lehigh, Iowa. After completing his school years he was engaged in the mercantile business with his father in Lehigh, the latter having established the business where E. L. Woodle's

store now stands, and in addition to his mercantile interests Mr. Daly was interested in the operation of a coal mine, which was later sold, but he continued to maintain and operate his coal yards in addition to his store. He later sold his store and purchased the Bird Supply Company, a general merchandising establishment located in South Lehigh. That property he successfully operated for two years, after which time he changed his location and established his business in the Tyson block, where he has since continued and has met with gratifying success. He carries a full line of rubber goods and general merchandise. He delivers his sales to the city trade and also has a substantial trade from the surrounding country within a distance of four or five miles from his store. He is one of the principal stockholders of the First National Bank of Lehigh.

Mr. Daly was united in marriage on the 29th of November, 1906, to Miss Mary E. Powers, a daughter of Thomas and Ellen Powers. Mr. Daly is affiliated with the democratic party and has his fraternal relations with the Knights of Columbus, belonging to Fort Dodge Lodge, No. 613, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America of Lehigh. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Daly, from the early period of his young manhood, has been constantly engaged in business enterprises in Webster county, and for many years has been numbered among the representative men of Lehigh. His well known reputation for integrity in business matters and the uprightness of his character have placed him among the desirable and useful citizens of his county and state.

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#### CHARLES A. ANDERSON.

Charles A. Anderson is one of the enterprising agriculturists of Webster county, Iowa, where he is successfully operating a stock and grain farm of one hundred and seventy-five and one-half acres located on section 6, Burnside township. He was born July 28, 1866, and is a son of J. S. and Emma Elizabeth (Lundgren) Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, and with their family of two children emigrated to the United States and settled in Henry county, Illinois, and later the father established his home on section 33, Clay township, Webster county, Iowa, in 1874. J. S. Anderson was twice married. He and his first wife were the parents of six children; Charles A., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Anna Lundquist, a resi-

dent of Nebraska; Mrs. Amanda Larson, who resides five miles northeast of Gallary, Clay township; Mrs. Agnes E. Sedholm; Robert, whose home is located three miles northeast of Gallary; and Paul, who is living five miles northeast of Gallary, Iowa. The last three named were born in Webster county, Iowa. By his second union Mr. Anderson had a family of six children, all of whom are deceased. He belongs to the democratic party and is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Charles A. Anderson was reared at home and received his education in the public schools of Webster county, Iowa. He later taught school in Clay township for four years, and in the spring of 1893 he purchased from Thomas Wright of Fort Dodge, a farm of one hundred and seventy-five and one-half acres, for years known as the McBane place. At the time Mr. Anderson purchased the farm it was all unbroken prairie land and he has since improved the property with suitable farm dwellings and brought the land to a high state of cultivation. The county drain runs directly through his land, thus affording a perfect drainage for every acre of land. On this property he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits and makes a speciality of high-grade cattle and thoroughbred hogs and horses. Mr. Anderson maintains his residence at Fort Dodge and drives to his farm mornings and at the close of the day returns home for the night. He has been a trustee of Burnside township for a number of years and is known as one of the reliable and enterprising citizens of that township of which he has been a resident for nearly a quarter of a century.

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#### ARNOLD E. HOUGE.

Arnold E. Houge, numbered among the younger business men of Webster county, is actively engaged in the conduct of a hardware establishment at Badger and in this connection is meeting with well merited success. His birth occurred in Badger township, this county, on the 3d of April, 1885, his parents being Peter A. and Elnora (Lindberg) Houge, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Webster county, this state. Peter A. Houge, who came to this county at an early date, turned his attention to the operation of a farm left him by his father and was actively engaged in its cultivation and improvement until 1893, when he put aside the work of the fields and took up his abode in Badger, where for several years pre-

viously he had conducted a hardware store. After coming to Badger he devoted his entire attention to that business, remaining an active factor in commercial circles here until he died. His sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. His widow has spent her entire life in Webster county and is well known and highly esteemed within its borders.

Arnold E. Houge obtained his early education in the schools of his native county and subsequently attended Drake University at Des Moines. After putting aside his text-books he came to Badger and embarked in the hardware business as a partner of his father, at whose death he became sole proprietor of the establishment. He carries an extensive line of shelf and heavy hardware and enjoys a liberal patronage. In addition to his store building he owns an attractive residence in the town of Badger.

On the 2d of June, 1909, Mr. Houge was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Peterson, a daughter of Rasmus and Rhoda Peterson. They have one child, Doris Evelyn, who is in her second year. Mr. Houge gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is ably serving as a member of the town council. His religious faith is that of the Lutheran church, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, acting as clerk of the local lodge of that order. A man of high worth and sterling integrity, Mr. Houge is widely respected and esteemed in the community which has always been his home.

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#### JOHN A. LIND.

John A. Lind has been a resident of Iowa since 1876. He is the president of the Harcourt Savings Bank, and since 1908 has been postmaster of Harcourt, in which city he resides. He was born in Folkoping, Sweden, May 4, 1848, and is a son of Andrew and Kate (Jackson) Swanson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, where the father followed farming. He emigrated with his family to America in 1866, and upon reaching the port of New York the ship was quarantined for seven weeks on account of its having on board seven hundred passengers who were afflicted with cholera, among whom was the father of the subject of this review. He was removed to a hospital where he died and was buried in New York. The mother

with the surviving members of her family settled in Rockford, Illinois, at which place a sister of our subject was living.

John A. Lind, after establishing his home in Rockford, took up work in the foundry of the N. C. Thompson Company at that place and continued in that occupation until he came to Webster county, in 1868, and purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, after which he returned to Rockford, where he again engaged in foundry work until 1874. In that year he went to his farm and cultivated the land for one year and then returned again to Rockford and engaged in work for a similar length of time. In 1876 he made his permanent settlement on his farm in Webster county and was continuously engaged in agricultural pursuits for the twenty-seven years following. He is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of highly developed land. In 1903 he established his residence in Harcourt, where he has since continued to reside. He is president of the Harcourt Savings Bank, and in November, 1907, received the appointment as postmaster of Harcourt and has since continued in that office.

Mr. Lind was married in 1871 to Miss Amanda Clay, a daughter of Andrew Clay of Rockford, Illinois. The father was a native of Sweden and is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Lind have been born seven children. Jennie married August Peterson, who is engaged in the butcher business in Harcourt, and they now have eight children. Victor, who is a leading meat dealer of Boxholm, is married and has four children. Oscar, an agriculturist of Lost Grove township, is married and the father of three children. Emily became the wife of Oscar Schill, a farmer of Lost Grove township, and is the mother of two children. Arthur, who operates the old homestead, is married and has two children. Martin, who is married and has two children, is engaged in agricultural pursuits. Esther became the wife of Frank D. Carlson, a railroad employe at Davenport, Iowa, and now resides in that city. The mother of this family died on the home farm in Lost Grove township, September 29, 1880, and in February, 1886, the father wedded Miss Anna Johnson, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Ephraim Johnson. To this union four children were born: Hilma, a student in Drake University at Des Moines, Iowa; Reuben, a resident of Boxholm; and Mamie and Roy, who are attending Tobin College at Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Mr. Lind is affiliated with the republican party and has served as road supervisor and assessor of Lost Grove township. He has been a member of the board of supervisors for seven years and

trustee of the township for six. He and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Harcourt. During his residence in Iowa he has steadily gained in the esteem of the people of Webster county and has for many years been placed by public opinion among the enterprising and public-spirited citizens of his portion of the state.

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### GEORGE SCHNURR.

George Schnurr is well known in business circles of Webster county as one of the proprietors of the Kalo Brick & Tile Company, which plant he purchased in partnership with his brother William a number of years ago. At the present time he is serving as postmaster of Otho, where he makes his home. He was born in Buffalo, Scott county, Iowa, on the 14th of February, 1874, his parents being Andrew and Amelia (Haase) Schnurr, more extended mention of whom is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of William Schnurr, a brother of our subject.

George Schnurr accompanied his parents on their removal to this county, when six years of age, and here obtained his education. After leaving school he went to work in the coal mines, being thus employed until 1893. In that year, in association with his brother and father, he embarked in the lumber and grain business at Otho. Later he and his brother William purchased the brick and tile plant of Johnson Brothers near Kalo, which they have operated to the present time, under the name of the Kalo Brick & Tile Company, enlarging it as the business grew and expanded under their capable management. At the present time their daily output is about eight carloads. George Schnurr is the president, a stockholder and a director of the Otho Mercantile Company, the other officers of that concern being as follows: William Schnurr, treasurer; John D. Fortney, secretary; Paul Scheerer, vice president; and O. C. Hanson, manager. Our subject is a stockholder in the Leighton Supply Company of Fort Dodge, Iowa, the Monarch Telephone Company of Fort Dodge and the Fort Dodge National Bank. He owns an attractive residence in Otho and he and his brother William have an excellent farm of three hundred and twenty acres in this county. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execu-

tion, and his close application to business and excellent management have brought to him the prosperity which is today his.

On the 7th of November, 1895, Mr. Schnurr was joined in wedlock to Miss Cora Fortney, a daughter of David and Isabelle (Todd) Fortney, of whom more extended mention is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of George William Fortney, a brother of Mrs. Schnurr. Mr. and Mrs. Schnurr have one child, Gilbert A., who is fifteen years of age.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise George Schnurr has supported the men and measures of the republican party, believing that its principles are the most conducive to good government. He is serving as postmaster of the town of Otho, ably discharging the duties devolving upon him in that connection. In religious faith he is a Methodist, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. High and manly principles have characterized his entire life, winning for him a creditable position in the regard of his fellowmen.

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### WILLIAM J. McDERMOTT.

Although the life of William J. McDermott has not been in any way extraordinary, his opportunities have been intelligently utilized and his energies directed toward the achievement of success. He is a native of Webster county, his birth having occurred in Pleasant Valley township, in November, 1869, and a son of Ambrose and Bridget (Lahiff) McDermott. Both are of Irish lineage, although the father is a native of Iowa, while the mother was born in New Hampshire. Ambrose McDermott came to Webster county in 1866, locating in Pleasant Valley township. Later he removed to Fort Dodge and established a blacksmith shop, which he conducted for several years. At the expiration of that time he purchased forty acres of land in Jackson township and once more identified himself with agricultural pursuits. His efforts in this direction were well rewarded and he was subsequently able to extend his holdings until he had acquired two hundred acres of fertile land. He energetically applied himself to the further improvement and cultivation of his farm until 1902, when he retired from active work. His death occurred on September 20, 1912.

William J. McDermott was reared at home and educated in the public schools. He assisted his father in various ways about the farm until he had attained his majority, when he left home and started out for himself. Purchasing eighty acres of his father's holdings in Jackson township he engaged in farming for himself, continuing his agricultural pursuits for about nine years. At the expiration of that time he sold his place and coming to Clare went into the insurance and real-estate business, which he has since followed. He has won the success that invariably rewards diligent effort and well defined purpose and in addition to a fine residence property in Clare, owns a farm of a hundred and seventy-five acres in Clay county, Iowa. He was one of the organizers of the Clare Mutual Telephone Company and owns stock in this enterprise, of which he is manager.

In June, 1906, Mr. McDermott was married to Miss Anna T. Hood, a daughter of John T. and Bridget (Rial) Hood, natives of Canada and Pennsylvania, respectively. Two children have been born of this marriage: Howard A., who is four years of age; and Isabelle, who is two.

The parents are communicants of the Roman Catholic church and fraternally Mr. McDermott is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he supports the democratic party. He was secretary of the school board in Jackson township for twelve years, and he also held the office of trustee. At the present time he is discharging the duties of town clerk and is secretary of the independent school district. He is a man of laudable ambition, earnest purpose and unceasing energy, which qualities have constituted dominant factors in the achievement of his success.

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#### STEWART CARTER.

The death of Stewart Carter occurred on November 1, 1861. He was born in Virginia, February 14, 1821, and his parents, Edwin and Judith (Carter) Carter, were also natives of that state. They removed to St. Louis, Missouri, when the subject of our sketch was a child and he received his early training and education in the public schools of that city. Upon putting aside his books Stewart Carter entered the army, and his distinguished military service is still remembered and commented upon in St. Louis. He served the government as assistant paymaster during the war with Mexico, and after hostil-

ities had ceased he went to Washington, D. C., and was there discharged. He immediately returned to St. Louis and was active in the banking business for many years. He was widely known as an honorable, sagacious and conservative financier, whose activities were largely responsible for the growth of the institution with which he was connected. He gained a reputation in St. Louis for the sound and concise policies, along which his banking transactions were conducted, and no breath of suspicion was ever connected with his name. He died on November 1, 1861, after an illness of only five days. He left behind him a wife and three children to mourn his loss.

Mr. Carter's marriage occurred December 14, 1854. His wife in her maidenhood bore the name of Mary Rhodes, who was born in Virginia, February 9, 1835. She is a daughter of Hillary and Marion (Carter) Rhodes, who were prominent residents of Virginia, in which state her mother died when Mrs. Carter was eight years of age. After her death the husband and family removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where the daughter Mary was reared and educated. Mary Rhodes was married in that city and after her husband's death removed with her children to Fort Dodge, Iowa, traveling here by stage coach at a time when there were no railroads. In 1865 she bought the beautiful home of Dr. Pease on the corner of Fourth street and Fifth avenue, which was the residence of this first and well known physician in Fort Dodge. She resided here until 1881, when she rented her property and removed to Des Moines, Iowa, where she made her home until May, 1896. At the end of that time, however, she returned to Fort Dodge, and again took up her home in the old residence in this city, where she is now living. The house may well be termed one of the historical buildings in the city. It was built in 1857 and the brick for this building, which was one of the imposing structures of its day, had to be hauled by wagon from Dubuque, Iowa. The house was built for the purpose of a doctor's office but it was also the home of other tenants which are of more or less interest to the general public. While the first courthouse was in course of construction and pending its erection, court was held in the upper story of the house and at the same time a basement room was used as the postoffice. In another part of the lower story was conducted the only drug store existing at that time in the city. The house even today, after standing over fifty years, is in an excellent state of preservation and here Mrs. Carter still makes her home. The site where it stands is that of old Fort Dodge and the band stand in the city park now occupies land where the old parade grounds were,

while the new Wauhkonsa school stands on the place where once the soldiers' mess house was. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Carter were the parents of three children, namely: Edwin S., who died in 1883 when he was twenty-five years of age; John F., who died December 22, 1911, after an illness of only six days with typhoid pneumonia, and who was a prominent and wealthy jeweler of Fort Dodge and proprietor of the Carter Jewelry Company, which enterprise his widow is now conducting; and Anna S., who is residing with her mother.

Mrs. Carter and her daughter affiliate with St. Marks Episcopal church of Fort Dodge, and are well and favorably known in religious circles of that city. The prosperity which they now enjoy they owe to the efforts of Stewart Carter whose activities in financial circles of St. Louis resulted in his accumulation of a comfortable fortune. The character of the work which he did during his life and the prominence of the place which he obtained were evidenced by the deep regret which attended his death. He won prosperity, but he was a man who valued the respect and esteem of his friends higher than business success, and was happy in the attainment of both ambitions.

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#### MARY ALICE CAREY.

Mary Alice Carey is filling the position of county superintendent of schools and is making an excellent record in that connection. She has given proof of her ability as an educator and she keeps in close touch with the most advanced ideas on educational matters. A native of Hazelton, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, she is a daughter of James and Mary (McCabe) Carey, who were natives of Ireland, the former born in County Tipperary and the latter in County Cavan.

Mary Alice Carey was brought to Fort Dodge in early girlhood and has here spent the greater part of her life. She was educated in the parochial schools and was graduated from the Lady of Lourdes Academy, in charge of the Sisters of Mercy. She then began teaching, having charge of a school in Buena Vista county, while later she became a teacher of Webster county, being identified with the work of the schools here for twenty-eight years. In this connection she made a creditable record, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that she had acquired. She was appointed county superintendent of schools in September, 1909, to fill out the unexpired term of E. E. Cavanaugh, who resigned, and in 1910 she was elected to the office.

She has always been interested in educational matters, seeking progress along those lines, and she takes an active part in teachers' meetings. Her religious faith is that of the Catholic church. She belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters and is president of the Young Ladies's Sodality of Corpus Christi church.

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### ERNEST L. WEISS.

Ernest L. Weiss owns and cultivates a large farm in Cooper township, Webster county, and by constant application has gained an enviable degree of prosperity. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, where Maywood is now located, on the 14th of May, 1864, a son of F. L. and Reinhelda (Gunther) Weiss. The father came from Germany to America with his parents when he was but sixteen years of age. The family located in Cook county and in that early day frequently drove with ox teams to Chicago when there were only two stores in that city. The grandfather entered land in that vicinity and the father at one time owned the property upon which the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad tracks from Chicago to Maywood are now laid. He improved his farm and was engaged in operating it until 1870, when he disposed of it and came to Webster county, Iowa. In this county he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Cooper township at fifty dollars an acre and later added ten acres. He immediately began improving the property and was busily engaged in clearing and cultivating it until 1890. In that year he rented his property, retired and removed to Fort Dodge, where he resided until his death, which occurred May 25, 1893. The mother passed away in February, 1901.

Ernest L. Weiss acquired his education in the public schools of Fort Dodge. Being but six years of age when his parents removed here, he has spent almost his entire life within the confines of the county. Until his father retired and removed from his farm he remained at home. Afterward he rented the farm, which he operated until 1896, the year in which he purchased the home place. His entire active career has been spent upon the farm and during that period he has been a most active factor in bringing its fields under a high state of cultivation and he has made many substantial improvements. Few farms in Cooper township present a more thrifty appearance. Not only is it all under a high state of cultivation but the buildings and machinery with which it is equipped are all of the most modern and

improved kind. Mr. Weiss raises from fifty to ninety head of hogs each year and keeps about twenty-five head of cattle and eleven head of horses. He also cultivates one hundred and seven acres of rented land.

On the 24th of May, 1888, Mr. Weiss was married to Miss Bertha Weiss, a daughter of Ernest and Wilhelmina (Beecher) Weiss, natives of Germany. The father came direct to Webster county, Iowa, when he left his native land in 1876 and immediately accepted employment in the Coalville mines. For about five years he worked there before going to Humboldt county and purchasing forty acres of land, which he immediately began to improve. As he was financially able to do so, he purchased additional property and at one time he owned four hundred acres. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred on the 14th of May, 1898. The mother's death occurred, January 13, 1908. To Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Weiss five children have been born: Alma, who is the wife of the Rev. William Schaffer and resides in Martinsburg, Nebraska; Alvin, Walter and Emma, all at home; and Matilda, who is attending the German Lutheran school at Fort Dodge.

In his political views Mr. Weiss has long been a stalwart democrat and, though he has not been a politician in the sense of seeking office, he is ever loyal to the best interests of the community and has served as road supervisor of his township. He is a stockholder in the German Investment Company and also the Commercial National Bank of Fort Dodge. In his religious faith he is a Lutheran and he and his family hold membership in the German Lutheran church of Fort Dodge. Prominent in the county where he has resided for many years, he well deserves representation in this volume, for his social qualities have made him many friends, while his business record is creditable and enviable.

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#### HUGH COLLINS.

Hugh Collins was among the early settlers of Webster county, taking up his abode in Jackson township in 1855. He was a native of Ireland and followed farming as his life occupation, passing away on the 9th of September, 1889, just two years after the death of his wife, Mrs. Catherine (Russell) Collins. Their son, Michael H. Collins, is at the present time, cashier of the State Bank of Clare, which

is one of the firmly established and conservative financial institutions of Webster county, with a paid up capital of twenty-five thousand dollars. Its officials all, are men of recognized business ability and well tried integrity whose honorable dealings and sound principles have won them the confidence of the community.

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### JOHN F. FORD.

John F. Ford is well known in business circles of Fort Dodge as proprietor of the Berryhill Book and Stationery Store and prominently identified with the public life of the city as the mayor of Fort Dodge. He was born in this city, on the 25th of November, 1864, his parents being Walter and Mary (Garvey) Ford, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1855, locating immediately in Fort Dodge, Iowa. He spent a number of years as a teamster before he took up a claim in Pocahontas county, just across the line from Webster. For twenty years he was occupied in clearing and improving this property and during that time proved himself to be a most capable agriculturist. Disposing of his property, he removed to Clare, Webster county, where he lived retired until his death, which occurred in June, 1908. The mother passed away in 1883.

John F. Ford pursued his education in the public schools of Iowa and remained at home until he reached his majority. At that time he engaged in farming independently, purchasing property in Webster county. Until 1893 he gave his entire time and attention to cultivating his farm and making it one of the most highly productive tracts in his section. In that year, however, he came to Fort Dodge and entered the county auditor's office as deputy. He served in that capacity for six years. By the end of that time he had shown his ability and he was elected auditor, an office which he held for six years. Prior to that time he had purchased an interest in the Berryhill Company, dealers in stationery and office supplies. Consequently, upon leaving the auditor's office he entered the Berryhill Company and was made its manager. At a later date he purchased the entire stock and he is now conducting the store at Nos. 919-921 Central avenue. He deals exclusively in books and stationery and his accurate knowledge of his stock, combined with good business ability, has made his venture a success from the beginning and his investment a profitable one.

On the 27th of September, 1893, Mr. Ford was married to Miss Nellie Howard, a daughter of Patrick and Mary (Butler) Howard, natives of Ireland, who came to America at an early day and located in Canada. The father's death occurred in that country and the mother removed to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where she was later married to Thomas Brennan, an agriculturist of Webster county. To Mr. and Mrs. Ford five children have been born, Howard, Ellen, Charlotte, Mary and Alice.

Mr. Ford gives his support to the republican party and in March, 1911, was elected mayor of Fort Dodge under the commission plan of government. In religious faith he is a Catholic. He holds membership in the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, The Knights of Columbus and the Improved Order of Red Men. He is a congenial, affable man, who by reason of his enterprise, perseverance and business capacity has taken a prominent place among Fort Dodge's successful citizens.

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#### THEULIOUS McNEELY.

Theulious McNeely was born in Illinois, April 16, 1838, and died in Duncombe, Iowa, on January 9, 1910, in his seventy-second year. During his long life he had many claims to the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. He was an early settler in Webster county, a prominent and successful farmer and an honored veteran of the Civil war. His death was widely and deeply regretted, for his upright life and his high standards of conduct had gained him many friends. He was a resident of Webster county for over half a century, coming to Washington township in 1855 with his parents from Illinois. He was a son of James and Martha (Broomhall) McNeely, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia, both of Irish ancestry. The father was a tailor by trade and worked at that occupation in Illinois for some years. Upon coming to Webster county he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land in Washington township, which he improved and operated until his death in 1884. He was survived by his wife until the fall of 1893.

Theulious McNeely was reared and educated in Illinois and was sixteen years of age when he came to Iowa, and remained at home until January, 1862, when he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred



Thurlius M<sup>c</sup>Neely

THE NEW  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ASTOR LENOX AND  
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

and Sixtieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. On September 19, of the following year, at the battle of Iuka, Mississippi, he received a severe gun-shot wound and was soon afterward again disabled. On account of this he was disqualified for further service and returned home settling upon his father's farm. He remained at home until the father's death when he inherited the three hundred and twenty acres which constituted the homestead. He made many improvements upon the property and operated it until 1893, when he retired from active life. During the years in which he followed general farming he gained a gratifying degree of success by always following modern and progressive methods and keeping abreast of agricultural advancement. When he abandoned farming he moved to Duncombe, where he erected a fine home in which he resided until his death, which occurred on January 9, 1910, after a few months' illness.

On December 26, 1859, Mr. McNeely was united in marriage to Miss Eugenia Serrissa Clark, a daughter of Joel and Betsy (Hill) Clark, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Massachusetts. Her father came to Webster county, Iowa, in 1855 and purchased eighty acres of land in Webster township, which he cultivated and improved for a number of years, later buying forty adjoining acres. He engaged in general farming until the outbreak of the Civil war when he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Sixtieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, serving as fifer. He was later transferred to Company F, and was discharged after one year of service on account of sickness. He returned home and operated his farm in Webster county until his death which occurred in 1887. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. McNeely had an adopted son, William, who passed away in 1878 and also undertook the education of Mrs. McNeely's younger sister, who is deceased, but whose daughter is now making her home with the wife of our subject. She was in her maidenhood Miss Genie Ford, and is now the widow of William Spike.

In his political affiliations Mr. McNeely was a consistent democrat. He was honored by his fellow citizens by election to the mayor's chair and served in that important office for four years to the general satisfaction of the public, making a record of which he had every reason to be proud. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, his only fraternal affiliation. He was a devout adherent of the Methodist church, to which religion his wife also gives her allegiance. His death was the occasion of widespread

regret, for his life had been in all its relations useful and upright. He attained success gradually, working his way forward until he occupied a foremost position among the leading agriculturists of this section of the state, his life proving conclusively that success is the result of determination and honorable methods.

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### EUGENE M. DUNNING.

For nearly forty years Eugene Dunning, a resident of Fort Dodge, has been in the livery business in this city. He was born in Kenosha county, Wisconsin, November 21, 1846, a son of C. P. and Rachel G. (Gordineer) Dunning. The father was a native of Scotland and was one of the first settlers in Ripon, Wisconsin. He engaged in the livery and elevator business in that town for several years before removing to Chicago, where he resided until his death which occurred in 1901. The mother was a native of New York state and her death occurred in 1903. They are buried at Fort Dodge.

In the public schools of Ripon, Wisconsin, Eugene M. Dunning acquired his education. He resided there continuously until he was twenty-five years of age with the exception of the time he served in the Civil war. He enlisted in Company B, Forty-first Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry at the age of fifteen years. After his return home he completed his education. At the age of twenty-five years he came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and engaged in the livery business. He had conducted a small establishment for seven years in Ripon and removed his stock here from that city. Because of his long connection with the business he is one of the most thorough horsemen and liverymen in Fort Dodge.

Mr. Dunning has been twice married. In 1871 he wedded Miss Josephine Ellis, a daughter of O. R. and Mattie (Benedict) Ellis, natives of New York state. To this union one child was born, Claude, now deceased. Mrs. Dunning's death occurred in 1887. In 1889 Mr. Dunning was married to Miss Addie Keltz, a daughter of Adam and Eliza (Wilson) Keltz, natives of Pennsylvania but of Scotch descent. The father came to Boone, Iowa, at an early date, and edited a newspaper in that city. Subsequently he removed to Webster county, took up a claim and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1898. In that year he retired and removed to Fort Dodge, where he resided until he went to Ocean Springs, Mississippi, to spend the winter. There he

contracted smallpox which caused his death in 1900. The mother is living in Fort Dodge at the age of seventy-seven years. To Mr. Dunning's second union one child was born, Jean E., who is twenty years of age and is an accomplished musician, having for six years played clarinet in the Y. M. C. A orchestra and being leader of three organizations of that kind.

Mr. Dunning is a republican. He holds membership in the Masonic lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star. He is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Grand Army of the Republic and the Iowa Legion of Honor. Mrs. Dunning is affiliated with the Presbyterian church and the daughter is a member of the Congregational church. Mr. Dunning has a wide acquaintance in the city, where most of his life has been spent and where he has had such a long business career, and his strongly marked characteristics are such as commend him to the trust and friendship of his fellowmen.

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#### DARWIN GREEN.

Darwin Green is successfully engaged in business as the junior member of the firm of Dawson & Green, conducting a mercantile establishment at Otho. His birth occurred in Joliet, Illinois, on the 13th of August, 1863, his parents being Charles and Amanda (Gifford) Green, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father removed to Illinois at a very early date and there worked at the machinist and carpenter trades until 1869. In that year he drove across the country to Iowa, locating in Humboldt county, where he remained until the spring of 1870. At that time he took up his abode in Fort Dodge, Webster county, where he worked at his trade and was employed as pattern maker in a foundry. In 1885 he removed to Kalo and spent the remainder of his life in honorable retirement, passing away in the home of our subject in April, 1898. For two decades he had survived his wife, whose demise occurred on the 15th of April, 1878.

Darwin Green was reared and educated in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and after putting aside his text-books entered the service of the Rock Island Railroad. Subsequently he was employed as car checker by the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad for four years, on the expiration of which period that corporation sent him to Kalo as agent and operator. When the station at that point was closed he was sent to Otho in the same capacity and ably discharged the duties devolving

upon him for about ten years. He then resigned his position and embarked in the mercantile business in partnership with William Dawson, with whom he has since remained as the junior member of the firm of Dawson & Green. They carry an extensive stock and enjoy a well merited patronage, winning and retaining customers by reason of their straightforward and honorable business dealings. Mr. Green and his partner own the store building and the former also has an attractive residence in Otho. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Otho and has long enjoyed an enviable reputation as one of the prosperous and esteemed citizens of the community.

On the 22d of December, 1885, Mr. Green was united in marriage to Miss Lottie E. Weaver, who was born at Morrison, Illinois, in August, 1864, her parents being Benjamin and Wealthy (Johnson) Weaver, natives of Pennsylvania and Vermont, respectively. The father was of German descent, while the mother is of Scotch lineage. At a period when the Indians still inhabited this part of the country Benjamin Weaver journeyed to Illinois, taking up his abode at Fulton. He there worked at the carpenter's trade for a number of years and subsequently removed to Morrison, Illinois, where he passed away in February, 1901. His widow, who has attained the age of seventy-eight years, makes her home with her children.

Darwin Green is a republican and loyally supports the men and measures of that party. From 1903 until 1911 he served as postmaster of Otho in a satisfactory and commendable manner. His religious faith is that of the Methodist church, while fraternally he is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is popular both in business and social life and gains the respect and confidence of all with whom he comes into contact.

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### J. AUGUST LINDQUIST.

J. August Lindquist is engaged in the men's clothing business in Gowrie, of which he is one of the enterprising and successful business men. He was born, March 6, 1858, and is a son of John and Mary (Ahlstrand) Lindquist, natives of Sweden, where the father died when the subject of this review was a child. The mother with the surviving members of her family emigrated to America in June, 1865, and settled in Henry county, Illinois. She was later united in

marriage to an uncle of our subject. Her second husband is a veteran of the Civil war and now resides in Dayton, Iowa. The mother died in Henry county in 1873.

J. August Lindquist was reared in his mother's home and received his early education in the public schools in Illinois. After his school days he was engaged at work on a farm in Illinois until 1881. In September, of that year, he took up work with his uncle, who was engaged in the general mercantile business, and continued in that occupation until 1889. He then obtained the position as cashier in the Webster County State Bank and remained in that position for two and one-half years, after which time he returned to the general merchandising business of his uncle, with whom he remained for one year, when the business was sold to Hoff Brothers. He remained with the new firm for one year. In 1894 he established himself in the clothing business in Gowrie, to which he has since continued to devote his attention. He operates his business under the firm name of Lindquist Brothers.

Mr. Lindquist was united in marriage in Gowrie, July 30, 1885, to Miss Olivia Larson, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Larson. The father died in Henry county. To Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist three children were born: Daisy, who is the wife of A. C. Norman, a carpenter contractor of Gowrie, by whom she has one child, Ruth Norma; Ruth, a graduate of the high school, who is a music teacher and organist of the Lutheran church; and Carl G., who died in infancy. The mother of this family died in 1895 and the father was married in February, 1906, to Miss Adla Liljegren, a daughter of S. J. and Matilda (Bloomquist) Liljegren. The father was a Lutheran clergyman and died at Kiron, Iowa. The mother now maintains her residence on a farm in Lost Grove township. Mr. Lindquist by his second marriage is the father of one son, Irving M., who was born September 24, 1908.

Mr. Lindquist is affiliated with the republican party and has taken a laudable interest in matters of public importance. In 1900 he was elected treasurer of Webster county and served in this office for four years with ability, discharging his duties with circumspection and promptness and looking after the finances of his county in just such a manner as he would after his own interests. His record based upon absolute integrity is well remembered and highly appreciated and must be a source of gratification to him. He has held various local offices in Gowrie and as member of the city council has become known as a man who stands for progress and improvement, having in no incon-

siderable way contributed to the up-building of his city and the welfare of its people. Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. He is a man whose integrity in business affairs has never been questioned and one whose high ideals of character place him among the influential, desirable citizens of his city and county.

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### JOHN D. FORTNEY.

John D. Fortney, a successful and esteemed citizen of Otho, is well known in business circles as secretary, director and a stockholder of the Otho Mercantile Company and also as bookkeeper for the Kalo Brick & Tile Company. His birth occurred in Otho township, this county, on the 19th of December, 1876, his parents being David and Isabelle (Todd) Fortney, more extended mention of whom is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of George William Fortney, a brother of our subject.

John D. Fortney obtained his early education in the schools of Webster county and subsequently continued his studies in Ellsworth College at Iowa Falls, while later he entered Tobin College of Fort Dodge, Iowa. After leaving the latter institution, being well qualified for the work as he had been reared in the atmosphere of mercantile life, he went into the grain and live stock business in association with his father, who conducted a general store, also. When his father had sold out our subject became identified, in 1900, with the Great Western Elevator Company at Otho, remaining in charge of that business for five years. On the expiration of that period he resigned and took charge of a farmers' elevator at Moorland, which he managed until the 1st of February, 1908. He then accepted the position of bookkeeper with the Kalo Brick & Tile Company and in that capacity has continued to the present time. He is also the secretary, a stockholder and a director of the Otho Mercantile Company, which concern owns a new and modern two-story brick building and carries a comprehensive stock of goods. The second floor of the structure is used as an opera house. In association with his brother, George William, John D. Fortney owns an interest in a farm in Humboldt county.

On the 6th of March, 1901, Mr. Fortney was united in marriage to Miss Elma McIntire, a daughter of Elisha and Ann McIntire, natives

of Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Fortney have been born two children, as follows: Madge Lucile, whose birth occurred on the 30th of March, 1903, and who died on the 6th of September, 1906; and Isabelle Maxine, whose natal day was March 16, 1911.

John D. Fortney gives his allegiance to the republican party and is now serving as trustee of Otho township, while formerly he acted as township clerk for many years. He belongs to the local organization of the Modern Woodmen of America. A lifelong resident of Webster county, he has been closely associated with its interests for a number of years and during that time has become widely known throughout the community, his many excellent traits of character winning him a circle of friends which is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

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#### OLAF MARTIN OLESON.

Olaf Martin Oleson was born in Stod parish, Trondhjem county, Norway, June 29, 1849, his parents being Ole and Olava (Brunstad) Five, who were natives of the same country. The father was a schoolteacher for a number of years and at the same time carried on farming. He was recognized as a public-spirited citizen and capably filled a number of public offices. Both he and his wife passed away in 1881, he being then about ninety-two years of age. Their religious faith was that of the Lutheran church and to its teachings they were ever loyal. In the family were seven children, four sons and three daughters: Martha; Lorens; Eilert; Caroline; Ingebrigt, who died in America; Ole; and Olaf. With the exception of the last named those still living are all residents of Norway.

O. M. Oleson was reared in the land of the midnight sun and there received a common-school education. His early experiences were those of the farm boy but in his youth he made his way to Christiania, the capital, where he secured employment with a florist and landscape gardener. Thinking that better opportunities would be afforded in the new world, he came to the United States in 1870 and secured a position upon a farm near Fort Dodge, being thus employed for two years. At the end of that time he became connected with the drug trade and has

continuously engaged in that business to the present time. He started in a small way but has built up a fine business. He graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, in 1870.

Selling good goods at the right price has been the principal feature in his success and as president of the Oleson Drug Company he is at the head of one of the important mercantile enterprises of the city. He is president of the Fort Dodge Telephone Company, of the Fort Dodge Light & Power Company, also of the Oleson Land Company, the Fort Dodge Hotel Company and the Iowa Trust & Live Stock Company.

Mr. Oleson has been married twice. He first wedded Lucy Deming, a daughter of John and Mariette (Belcher) Deming, who came from the state of New York and lived in Webster county for many years. Mrs. Oleson passed away in 1904. Mr. Oleson was again married to Miss Julia Haskell, a native of this city and a daughter of A. E. and Martha G. Haskell, who were born in Connecticut but became early settlers of Fort Dodge. Her father was connected with staging in the early days both in Iowa and on the Pacific coast. Mrs. Oleson is a member of the Congregational church, while Mr. Oleson still belongs to St. Olaf's Lutheran church, of which he is treasurer. In politics Mr. Oleson stands with the progressive element which is seeking the betterment of political conditions and endeavoring to thwart the use of the party for individual or corporation interests instead of promoting the welfare of the great majority. He was elected state senator and he represented his district in the upper house of the general assembly in 1892 and 1894.

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### JULIUS C. FALLON.

One of the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of Douglas township is Julius C. Fallon, who owns a well improved farm on section 9 in the cultivation of which he is meeting with success. He is a native of Webster county, his birth having occurred in the township where he now resides on the 17th of August, 1870. His father was **John Fallon, a native of Ireland**, who came to America with his parents when a child of two years. The family located at Moore's Village and there John Fallon was reared and educated and acquired his early agricultural training. In 1866 he came to Iowa and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Douglas township, this

county. He immediately began cultivating his farm, meeting with such success that he was later able to increase his holdings until at one time he held the title to four hundred and eighty acres. He was diligent and enterprising and the development of his property engaged his undivided attention until his death, which occurred on the 9th of December, 1896. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Gannon, is a native of New York city. She is seventy-two years of age and continues to make her home on the farm, where she has resided since early womanhood.

Born and reared amid pioneer conditions, Julius C. Fallon passed his early life very much as did the other youths living in the rural sections of Iowa at that period. He attended the district school in the acquirement of an education, and during his spare hours assisted about the farm. At the age of twenty-two years he rented eighty acres of land from his father and began farming for himself. His training had been thorough and he was well qualified to begin his independent career, as is evidenced by the capable and successful manner in which he directed his undertakings. Six years later he purchased a part of the old homestead, on which he has wrought extensive improvements during the period of his ownership, making it one of the most valuable properties in the district. Subsequently he bought another eighty acres of the home place, but he sold this tract to his brother-in-law.\* Since he never married Mr. Fallon employs the services of a man and his wife, the former assisting about the farm while the latter does the housekeeping. He engages in both diversified farming and stock-raising and is meeting with success in both lines of activity, as he gives careful attention to details. He annually markets about fifty hogs, raises such cattle as are needed about the place and keeps twelve head of horses. His progressiveness is evidenced by the general appearance and condition of his property and stock, as well as by the many modern conveniences and appliances which have been installed about his farm. His equipment comprises every machine or implement deemed essential by the modern agriculturist, and he keeps a touring car for his convenience and pleasure. Mr. Fallon is diligent and enterprising and earnestly applies himself to anything he undertakes with the firm conviction that he is going to make a success of it, and this he invariably does. He takes great pride in his farm and is constantly making plans for its further improvement and development, and each year shows progress in this direction. He likes his work and enjoys the life of a farmer, and

while he is fully aware of its disadvantages, feels that there are compensations.

Despite the exactions of his business he has always devoted considerable time to local political affairs, supporting the democratic party. At the present time he is one of the county trustees, and is discharging his official duties in a manner highly satisfactory to his constituency and the community at large. He is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Eagles, being a member of the lodge at Fort Dodge. Mr. Fallon is popular and has many friends, as he possesses the affable and genial manner generally characteristic of the Celt, while in both business and public affairs he manifests those qualities which universally command respect.

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#### P. T. FLYNN.

Varied and diversified business interests claim the attention of P. T. Flynn, one of Webster county's enterprising citizens, who for twelve years has been cashier of the Duncombe Savings Bank. His birth occurred in Pleasant Valley township, this county, in the month of August, 1870, his parents being Timothy and Emma (Burke) Flynn, natives of Ireland. The father came to the United States in 1849, first locating in Des Moines, and to Webster county in 1855. Later he took up a homestead in Cherokee county, industriously devoting himself to its further improvement until 1870. In the latter year he disposed of his interests there and came to Webster county, continuing his agricultural pursuits in Pleasant Valley township until his death in 1876. The mother had passed away two years previously.

Left an orphan at the tender age of six years, P. T. Flynn was reared by his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Winnifred Burke, where he worked on the farm and labored in and around the mines, attending the district school at such intervals when his labor was not required at home. So diligently did he apply himself to study, both at school and during the long winter evenings at home, that at the age of nineteen he was teaching school on a first-grade certificate. With the money earned as a country schoolteacher, he entered Highland Park College of Des Moines, in September, 1891, from which institution he graduated in 1894.

After graduation, he again devoted himself to teaching and newspaper work, putting in some time as city editor of the Fort Dodge Chronicle in 1896. In 1897, he entered Drake University, Des Moines, spending a year in special work. In 1898 he went to North Dakota, where he received a state certificate and taught language, literature and higher mathematics in the graded schools.

In 1900 he accepted the position of cashier in the Bank of Duncombe, now the Duncombe Savings Bank. This enterprise, which is incorporated for twenty-five thousand dollars, is one of the conservative and thriving banking institutions of Webster county. Peter Mallinger is president; B. J. Stack, vice president; P. T. Flynn, cashier; and L. V. Miller and John Heffner, assistant cashiers. They are all reputable men, of recognized business ability and high standards of integrity, who enjoy the confidence of the community by reason of their upright principles. Mr. Flynn also engages in the real-estate business, in which he has met with a good measure of success, having acquired title to about one thousand two hundred acres of rich farming land around Duncombe, besides valuable city property both in Duncombe and Fort Dodge. He is one of the shareholders in the Duncombe Cement Tile Company, and owns a one-third interest in the Duncombe Auto Company, which maintains garages both in Duncombe and Fort Dodge, Peter Mallinger and James Toohey being the other members of the firm.

In June, 1899, Mr. Flynn was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Latta, a daughter of Johnson and Elizabeth (O'Neil) Latta. To Mr. and Mrs. Flynn have been born the following children: Dorothy, who has entered her thirteenth year; Pauline, who is ten years of age; Carl, who has passed his eighth birthday; May, who has celebrated the fifth anniversary of her birth; and John and Kathleen, twins, who are two years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Flynn are communicants of the Roman Catholic church, and fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Yeomen. Despite the exactions of his extensive private interests, Mr. Flynn finds time to fulfill his civic duties, giving his political support to the democratic party, and is now representing his ward in the town council. His business career has progressed in the orderly manner characteristic of the man of definite purpose, his carefully considered plans and capably concentrated

powers having been directed toward a single achievement at a time. Both as a business man and citizen he has manifested those qualities which highly merit the respect and esteem he is accorded by his fellow citizens, many of whom are stanch friends of long years' standing.

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### CHARLES ARENT.

Charles Arent was numbered among the farmers of Webster county whose progressive and intelligent labors are forces in local agricultural development. He cultivated a fine farm of three hundred acres in Badger township and by energy, industry and efficiency made it a model enterprise of its kind. He is now living retired in Badger, where he has just completed a beautiful modern home. Mr. Arent was born in Norway, September 20, 1853, and is a son of Frederick and Able (Arent) Arent, natives of that country. The father farmed in Norway all his life and his death occurred there in March, 1860. Two years later his wife with her three sons and two daughters came to America, settling in La Salle county, Illinois. She died on March 24, 1884, in De Kalb county, Illinois, whither she had come with her family in 1868.

Charles Arent completed an education begun in the schools of Norway in Illinois. He came to America with his mother when he was eight years of age and remained in La Salle county until 1868. He had farmed independently for four years in Illinois and on coming to Iowa, in 1880, purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Badger township, which he developed and improved for a short time, selling it later in order to purchase eighty acres in the same section, which he improved along progressive lines. He constantly added to his property until at the time of his retirement he was the owner of three hundred acres, constituting a valuable and well equipped farm. This he was successful in operating until the spring of 1912, when he moved to Badger, where he is now living in his new residence. He is well known in the village and has many friends who honor him for his upright character and straightforward manners.

On September 17, 1892, Mr. Arent was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Danielson, a daughter of Ole and Mary (Nelson) Danielson,

natives of Norway. They came to the United States in 1866, settling in La Salle county, Illinois, whence they later moved to Livingston county, that state. After a period of residence in that section they came to Webster county, Iowa, where the father purchased a tract of land which he has improved and operated since that time.

Mr. Arent is actively interested in the growth and development of the village in which he lives and is a stockholder in various local enterprises, among them the Farmers Elevator Company and the Badger Telephone Company. Politically he affiliates with the Roosevelt progressive party, being a staunch admirer of Mr. Roosevelt and a believer in the principles for which he stands. He belongs to the Lutheran church. He has earned by diligent and useful labor the rest which he is now enjoying, having made his active life valuable in an individual and in a public way by keeping his business methods upright and honorable and by adhering to high standards of citizenship.

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#### WILLIAM E. HAVILAND.

William E. Haviland, who is now living retired, has extensive property and financial interests in Webster county. He was born in Illinois, June 16, 1846, a son of John P. and Cynthia (Pepper) Haviland, both of whom were natives of Dutchess county, New York. The father removed to Illinois at an early date and settled in Dupage county, thirty-five miles from Chicago. He purchased an eighty acre tract of land, which he cultivated until 1865. During that time he made many improvements and brought it to a high state of productivity, later disposing of it at a good price. He came to Webster county, Iowa, in 1865, and purchased one hundred and seventy-five acres which he immediately began to improve. His death occurred on the 28th of February, 1880, and the mother passed away on the 2d of July, 1889.

William E. Haviland was a pupil in the common schools of Illinois until he laid aside his text books to assist his father in his agricultural pursuits on the home farm. He came to Iowa with his parents when he was about twenty years of age and remained with them until their deaths. William E. being an only child, the father, shortly before his death, deeded to him the home farm.

Mr. Haviland has been twice married. On the 14th of July, 1868, he was wedded to Miss Catherine E. McMellan, a daughter of Dr.

McMellan of Elmira, New York. Dr. McMellan was practicing medicine in Elmira until his death, while his wife's death had occurred many years previous. To Mr. and Mrs. Haviland one child was born, Nora E., who is an osteopathic physician in Grand Junction, Colorado, and the wife of R. D. Moore, also an osteopath. Mrs. Haviland's death occurred February 16, 1889. On the 25th of December, 1891, Mr. Haviland was again married, this union being with Amelia A. Haviland, a daughter of J. B. and Saba (LaDue) Haviland, natives of New York state. The father came to Webster county in the early '50s, and entered government land which he improved and operated until his death, in 1899. The mother passed away in 1894.

Mr. Haviland gives his political support to the republican party, to which he has always been loyal. He has served the town efficiently as township clerk, township trustee and assessor, and is at present treasurer of the Cooper township school board. He takes an active interest in religious affairs and is an ardent worker in church work. He holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Although he is living practically retired at present, he still takes a deep interest in his farms. He also owns a farm near Huron, South Dakota, and one in Wisconsin. He is a stockholder in the Corn Belt Meat Producers Association, a packing company of Fort Dodge, and also a director in the Farmers Mutual Insurance Association and vice president of the Commercial National Bank of Fort Dodge. Because of the variety of his interests he is well known throughout the county, and his straightforwardness and enterprising spirit have won him the respect of the entire community.

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### JOHN I. RUTLEDGE.

Iowa's greatness and prosperity is in a large measure due to its agricultural resources and development. The men who have given their energy and strength to improving the soil are responsible for present prosperous conditions. Many of the state's most fertile tracts are located in Webster county and have been brought to a high state of productivity through the activities of men who have spent their entire careers in agricultural pursuits. Among these is John I. Rutledge, who owns four hundred and ninety-six acres of valuable land in Cooper township. His birth occurred in Canada, August 11, 1853,

his parents being Crozier and Isabelle (Rayburn) Rutledge. The father is of Scotch-Irish descent and the mother of Canadian birth. Crozier Rutledge came to this country with his parents and located in Canada, where he acquired his education. As soon as he became old enough to start upon an independent career he engaged in the mercantile business at Charleston, Canada, and continued there until he reached the age of forty-three years, in which year he was accidentally killed while riding to Toronto, forty miles distant, to purchase goods. The mother passed away fifty years later.

John I. Rutledge was reared and educated in Canada. He remained at home with his mother until 1873, when he was twenty years of age. At that time he came to Illinois and took charge of a farm for three years before he returned to Canada for a year's visit. In the autumn of 1877 he came to Iowa and located at Fort Dodge, where he remained until he removed to Humboldt county and purchased one quarter section of land. For two years he was engaged in improving and cultivating this property, but at the end of that time rented it and went to O'Brien county, where for three years he had charge of a five thousand acre farm for Pallin Brothers. He then returned to Fort Dodge, where he was married, and moved to his farm in Humboldt county. A year later, however, he sold that farm and came to Fort Dodge and rented his father-in-law's farm. For twenty-two years he was engaged in cultivating this property and during that time brought it under high cultivation and proved himself an agriculturist of unusual worth. His determination to succeed, his unremitting energy and persistency were the salient characteristics in bringing about his remarkable success. In 1907 he purchased four hundred and ninety-six acres of land in Cooper township, and is still engaged in operating this farm. He has improved the property to such an extent that at present he has one of the finest farms in the county, provided with all modern equipments. In addition to general farming he has engaged in dairying and stock-raising, specializing in the better grades of stock. He has at present eighty head of cattle and raises from one hundred to two hundred head of hogs per year. He keeps about thirty horses.

In April, 1884, Mr. Rutledge was married to Miss Carrie C. Coffin, a daughter of Lorenzo S. and Mary (Chase) Coffin. The father was a native of New Hampshire and the mother of New York state. The father came to Iowa in 1855 and took up a claim. From time to time he increased his holdings and he now owns seven hundred and twenty acres. He is at present eighty-nine years of age. The mother

died in January, 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Rutledge seven children have been born: Irving C., who is engaged in the dairying business; Isabelle M., who is teaching in the high school at Humboldt, Iowa; Rayburn S., who is attending Ames College; Catherine S., who is a student in the College at Grinnell; Helen Chase, attending high school at Fort Dodge; and Ruth L., and Cora Elizabeth, both in school in Fort Dodge.

In politics Mr. Rutledge affiliates with the republican party. In religious faith he and the members of his family are Congregationalists. The material welfare of the community has always been of prime importance to him. He is one of the present trustees of Cooper township, and for ten years was trustee of Douglas township. The position he now holds as one of Webster county's most prominent agriculturists, has been won by industry, perseverance and patience, and comes as a just reward for the hardships he endured in earlier life.

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### JAMES BASS.

Among the residents of Dayton who came to Webster county when it was a frontier district and substantially contributed toward the upbuilding and development of the community is James Bass, who owns over eight hundred acres of land in Yell and Dayton townships, much of which he bought directly from the government, in addition to some valuable Dayton property. He was born in North Carolina, April 27, 1832, and is a son of Edward and Mary (Saffley) Bass. He is of English and Irish extraction and represents the third generation of his family in America, his paternal grandfather being a veteran of the Revolutionary war and having participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. In 1835 Edward Bass removed with his family to Indiana and engaged in farming. Twenty years later he came to Iowa, purchasing two hundred and forty acres of land in Boone county, to which he subsequently added another twenty acres of timber land. There both he and the mother passed the remainder of their lives, his death occurring on the 3d of February, 1883, at the venerable age of ninety-four years, his natal day having been the 17th of January, 1789. The mother survived him for three years, passing away July 15, 1886.

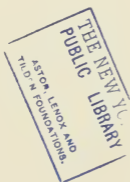




*James Bass*



*Mrs James Bass*



James Bass, who was a child of three years when his parents left North Carolina, was reared to manhood in Owen county, Indiana. In the acquirement of his education he attended the subscription schools of that state until he was fourteen when he laid aside his text-books and began assisting his father with the work of the farm. He remained at home until he attained his majority, then started out to make his own way in the world. In the fall of 1852, he came to Iowa, settling in Webster county. As he had never learned a trade, he went to work as a farm hand, being unfamiliar with any other occupation. Although he received meager wages, he was thrifty and temperate in his habits and soon accumulated sufficient capital to enable him to buy eighty acres of government land, for which he paid from a dollar and a quarter to a dollar and a half per acre. It was located seven miles northeast of Dayton in Yell township and has ever since been in possession of Mr. Bass and is known as the old homestead. He energetically applied himself to putting this under cultivation, meeting with such lucrative returns from his farming that he was able from time to time to increase his holdings until he now owns eight hundred acres of farming land, which he is renting. He resided on his homestead until March, 1869, when he withdrew from the active work of the fields and removed to Dayton. He has ever since made this city his home and owns a very pleasant residence on Main street, where he is living.

Mr. Bass was married in 1857 to Miss Cassie Halloway, who was born in North Carolina on the 24th of March, 1837, and died in Dayton on the 3d of February, 1901. Her parents were also natives of North Carolina, and there the mother passed away many years ago. The father subsequently came to Webster county and made his home with our subject until just before the Civil war when he was married again. He died in February, 1881, and is buried in the Beem cemetery, near Lehigh, this county. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bass. Mary Jane, the widow of Taylor Scott, who lives at Gowrie, this county, has seven children: Hubert, Nellie, Grace, Clifton, Cassie, Wilson and Leo. Rachel A. married Charles C. Miller, a schoolteacher of New Mexico. Addie, the wife of Thomas Bragg, a farmer south of Gowrie, has five children. Sherman, who conducts a pool and billiard hall in Dayton, married Julia Casebolt and they have three children: Orville, Effie and Fay. Grant, who works in a cafe at Boone, Iowa, married Cora Guthrie and they have

three children: Halsey, Sylvia and Maxine. Miles, a rural mail carrier, married Jennie Nelson and they also have three children: Raymond, Marie and Mildred. Mina, the wife of Will Nichols, a traveling salesman of New Mexico, has two children, Velma and an infant. Elsie, who married Fred C. Esch, a clerk of Wyoming, has one child, Dorothy Adeline. Ella married Dr. L. E. Estick of Rockwell City, Iowa, and they have one child, Lewis Howard. On the 1st of March, 1906, Mr. Bass married Mrs. Anna Butler, a native of Canada and a daughter of John and Caroline Eliza (Bryant) Gates. The father, who was of Dutch extraction, was born in Kingston, Canada, and the mother in Ogdensburg, New York. He was a son of John Gates, who homesteaded one hundred acres of land, where the Kingston Market now stands in Ontario, Canada. When the War of 1812 broke out he went to the front and is supposed to have been killed at the Battle of the Windmill, at Prescott, Ontario, as he was never heard from afterward. His son, John Gates, the father of Mrs. Bass, was one of the successful agriculturists of Kingston, Ontario, and acquired one thousand acres of valuable land in Frontenac county, upon which the youngest son, George Gates, is now residing. Mrs. Bass inherited two hundred acres of land from her father, which is now rented to her eldest son, George Henry Ayerst. Mr. Gates passed away in Canada in 1889, and the mother, who was of Irish and American descent, came to Iowa and made her home with her son James Gates at Boone, until her death in 1901. Mrs. Bass was first married in 1861 to Francis Ayerst, of England. He died in Canada twenty-five years ago and she later became the wife of Charles Butler, a veteran of the Civil war and a native of the state of New York, where he likewise died. In 1904, she located in Boone, Iowa, and there she was married two years later to Mr. Bass.

Mr. Bass, who has been a resident of Iowa for sixty years, has many interesting reminiscences to relate of the pioneer days. After the Indian massacre at Spirit Lake, there was a rumor of an uprising among the natives in this section and three hundred men, of whom Mr. Bass was one, under command of Johnson McFarland and Joseph Thrift responded to the call to defend the settlers. They marched from Boonesboro to Webster City but as their services were not required they disbanded and returned home. In 1863, he again volunteered to fight the Indians under Captain Williams of Fort Dodge and went to Chain Lake to

assist in constructing barracks for the protection of the settlers. Six months later they marched back to Fort Dodge and disbanded. On the 18th of November, 1864, he enlisted at Fort Dodge in Company K, Sixteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry under Captain Slattman. Their regiment was ordered to report at Nashville, and there his company was detached and placed in the One Hundredth and Thirty-second New York Infantry. He had his first experience in battle at Fort Negley, and from there they moved on Fort Lookout, and then participated in the battles of Kingston and Goldsboro, North Carolina. At the latter point his company rejoined their old regiment, and passing under General Sherman's command marched to Raleigh. They were stationed there for two weeks before Johnson surrendered. Following this they had a two days review at that point, going from there to Washington, D. C., to participate in the grand review. His regiment was then ordered to report at Louisville, Kentucky, where they were stationed until July 9, 1865, when they were discharged.

Mr. Bass votes the democratic ticket and served as trustee in Yell township for several terms and was a school director there for many years. He is a member of Captain Dowd Post, No. 329, G. A. R., of Dayton and Mrs. Bass belongs to the Women's Relief Corps and the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Bass who has attained the venerable age of eighty years, has the distinction of never having made a deed or given a mortgage and still owns every piece of property he ever purchased. Mr. Bass still enjoys the best of health and is well and vigorous and has remarkable eyesight. He takes great satisfaction in his achievements as he began life in early manhood without any capital, and by his own industry, perseverance and capable management acquired a competence that has long enabled him to live in retirement, and still enjoy all comforts of life.

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#### SILAS M. DEAN.

The career of Silas M. Dean is the record of an intelligent and useful life spent in business fields of activity and always actuated by high standards of personal honor and business integrity. He is now engaged in the grocery business in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and his progressive methods and well tested integrity have won him a gratifying

degree of success. He was born in Clay county, Iowa, June 14, 1875, and is a son of Walter and Jane (Roberts) Dean. His father was born in North Carolina and came to Clay county about 1868. He was for many years one of the progressive and representative agriculturists of that region and he operated the farm, which he bought upon his arrival, until 1897. In that year he retired from active life and removed to Peterson, Iowa, where he now resides. He is a judicious and discriminating man and has added to these qualities a special knowledge of farm values, which has resulted in acquiring a competency. His investments are principally in Iowa land, and he gives his entire attention to the management of his holdings. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dean reside in Peterson, Iowa.

The country schools of Clay county afforded Silas M. Dean his early educational privileges. He pursued his studies until he was twelve years old and then left home, removing to Jasper county, where he engaged in various activities, such as were obtainable for a lad of his years until he was fifteen years of age. In 1890 he came to Fort Dodge and worked in the employ of various concerns in this city until he was twenty-three years of age. He constantly realized the fact that he was hampered by too short an education and as soon as he was able, entered the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines and by wise improvement of every opportunity soon won an efficient knowledge of business. When he was twenty-three years of age Mr. Dean enlisted in Company G, of the Fifty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served for three months. He was stationed at Chickamauga Park, where he became thoroughly conversant with the details of military order and the various army tactics. His regiment returned to Des Moines and spent one month in that city before they were mustered out, October 30, 1898. Mr. Dean remained in Des Moines and obtained employment under a Mr. Thomas in the milk business. He followed this line of activity for six years and by strict economy was enabled to rent Mr Thomas' farm at the end of that period. He carried on the enterprise along progressive and sanitary lines for five years and was successful to a gratifying extent. In 1909 he returned to Fort Dodge and established a grocery and milk business independently and has been active and successful in its operation ever since. He has gradually branched out into other fields of activity and has become known in Fort Dodge as a representative business man. In September, 1911, he purchased the stock of the Fort Dodge Coke & Coal Company and this concern owes its present flourishing condition to his efficient management.

On July 6, 1903, Mr. Dean was united in marriage to Mrs. Maude (Bennett) DeLano, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Hemdle) Bennett. The mother was born in Germany but came to America at an early date. The father was a native of Canada and in 1869 came to Webster county, where he operated a farm until 1891. In that year he retired and moved to Fort Dodge, where he resided until his death in 1897. His wife is still living and makes her home with her son-in-law, the subject of this review, and is now seventy-nine years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Dean has been born one child, Walter Judson. Mr. Dean also has two step-children, Charlotte Marie and Allen Thomas. Mrs. Dean passed away on December 23, 1910, after a three years' illness and her death deprived Fort Dodge of a charming and hospitable woman and her family of a devoted wife and mother.

Mr. Dean gives his political support to the republican party. He is prominent in the Ancient Order of United Workmen and in the Veterans of the Spanish War. He is a devout adherent of the Baptist church and with this faith his children also affiliate. He is highly esteemed by his fellow citizens and enjoys the respect of his many friends and acquaintances by reason of a well deserved business success and his clean, honorable, private life.

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#### EDWIN V. BROWN.

The death of Edwin V. Brown on June 17, 1906, deprived many residents of Fort Dodge of a genial, kindly and loyal friend and the business circles of the city of a conspicuously able representative. Mr. Brown was for many years prominently identified with the retail tobacco trade, carrying on his business on the site where the First National Bank of Fort Dodge is now located. He was born in Oswego, New York, July 17, 1838, and was a son of Chester and Mary (Cook) Brown, both natives of New York, of German lineage. The father lived and died in his native state and was one of its successful farmers. He died September 17, 1890, having survived his wife by nine years, her death occurring, November 10, 1890.

Edwin V. Brown spent his early youth in New York state and was educated in its public schools. He early heard the call of the sea and when he laid aside his books shipped on a whaling vessel, plying the waters around the northern part of America and off the eastern coast for two years, during which period he never caught sight of

land. He followed the sea for six years, but eventually abandoned this occupation to make his home in Minnesota. He intended to purchase land in that state and follow agricultural pursuits but was unsuccessful in finding a farm just as he wanted it and returned to New York. In the early '60s he went to Calhoun county, Iowa, and bought land which he proved and operated for two years. He there gained a thorough knowledge of modern agriculture and was successful as a farmer. He abandoned farm life, however, after two years of activity in this line and came to Fort Dodge to accept a position as traveling salesman for the Fulton Implement Company. Success attended his commercial efforts and for four years he was a valued and energetic representative for his employers. When he severed his connection with the Fulton Implement Company he went to Minneapolis to enter the employ of Hooker & Manley, wholesale cigar dealers in that city. It was here that he first found an occupation entirely suited to his talents and tastes and his activities in the wholesale branch of the cigar business gave a definite vent to his ambitions. He applied himself to learning the details connected with the selling and buying end of the business and became familiar with the different grades of the product and was soon recognized as an expert in his chosen field of activity. He remained with Hooker & Manley until 1885 and then returned to Fort Dodge to enter into business for himself. He established his store, which contained wholesale and retail departments, upon the site where the First National Bank is now located and here for many years he conducted one of the most flourishing and prosperous enterprises in this line in the city. His ambition and energy coupled with thorough and definite knowledge made his rise in the business world rapid and his honorable methods and strict integrity soon gained him many patrons. Eventually he was enabled to retire. He conducted his enterprise until 1902 and in that year closed his store and started upon an extended tour of the southern states. The poor condition of his health was an influential factor in his determination to retire from business. He was a sufferer from asthma and his southern journey although it benefited him generally had no lasting effect upon his health. He returned to Fort Dodge and made this city his home until his death on June 17, 1906, in his sixty-eighth year. His passing was widely and genuinely regretted by his many friends in the city and it deprived the business interests of Fort Dodge of a shrewd and discriminating man. He was well known throughout the city as an exemplary and thoroughly honest citizen and the place which he left in social and commercial circles will be difficult to fill.

On November 26, 1871, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Mary Barr, a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Stewart) Barr, both natives of Ohio. The father left the latter state at an early date and made his home in Minnesota, where he engaged in blacksmithing until the outbreak of the Civil war. In 1861 he enlisted in Company A, Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served during the entire four years with honor and distinction. He was wounded in the right arm and never afterward regained the full use of that member. After the surrender of the Confederacy he returned to Minnesota and thereafter followed the occupation of a veterinary surgeon until his death, which occurred in March, 1907, when he had attained the age of ninety-one years. His wife's death had long since preceded his and occurred in April, 1877. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born two children: Edwin V., Jr. now in the thirty-ninth year of his age, who is employed by the Bythe Brick & Tile Company of Fort Dodge; and J. S., whose birth occurred on July 17, 1875. Mrs. Brown and her two sons reside at No. 806 First Avenue in a comfortable and commodious home which Mr. Brown purchased before his death.

Politically Mr. Brown was a staunch republican and actively interested in the affairs of his community although he never held nor sought public office. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and to this faith his wife gives her allegiance. He was prominent in the Masonic order, having been initiated in Ashlar Lodge on July 16, 1869. He attained a prominent position in the deliberations of that body during his life and was active in the affairs of the organization for many years. His life had a distinct influence upon the commercial progress of Fort Dodge. He had that talent for organization and management which is a necessary factor in development and upbuilding. He set for himself a high standard of business honor and he never deviated from his code. He made his life upright, worthy and genuinely useful and his death marked the passing of a valued and respected citizen and a thoroughly honest man.

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#### JOHN W. KIME.

Dr. John W. Kime, who in his practice is specializing in the treatment of tuberculosis, occupies a prominent place among those who have in recent years given their attention to this branch of practice, doing a work which is of untold benefit. Dr. Kime was born in Shelby

county, Iowa, October, 1855, a son of Abraham and Mary (Baughman) Kime, both of whom were natives of Indiana. The father removed to Shelby county in 1852 and immediately entered land. Until the war broke out he was engaged in cultivating and improving this property. He enlisted in Company I, Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry and served until the spring of 1863, when his death occurred as a result of black measles. After her husband's death the mother continued in the operation of the farm throughout the remainder of her life. She passed away in 1890.

Dr. Kime was reared at home and his early education was acquired in the public schools of Shelby county. His training was supplemented by a course of study at the State University at Iowa City, which institution he entered when he was eighteen years of age. He took a general college course and subsequently took up the study of medicine, graduating with the class of 1883. He afterward opened an office in Angus, Iowa, where he remained for one year before coming to Fort Dodge in 1884. He at once engaged in the general practice of medicine and is at present one of the most prominent physicians of this city. Realizing that this is an age of specialization and that the greatest good can be done by perfecting one's self in a particular line, he has made a special study of tuberculosis and at present is conducting a hospital on the north side of the city for the treatment of those afflicted with that disease. Close study and personal investigation have gained him broad knowledge and made him most efficient in his chosen field of labor. He has served as state lecturer on tuberculosis for the last three years. He holds membership in the Iowa State Medical Association, the National Tuberculosis Association and the Webster County Medical Association. He utilizes every means at hand to advance and promote his efficiency. His labors have been of a valuable character, and in all his professional practice he works toward high ideals.

In August, 1884, Dr. Kime was married to Miss Sara Paugburn, a daughter of William and Sabina Paugburn, natives of New York state. Mrs. Kime ably assists the Doctor in his professional work, as she herself has studied medicine and is a graduate physician. At an early date the father removed to Fayette county, Iowa, and was one of the pioneer settlers of that district. He entered land which he cultivated until 1909, when he gave up agricultural pursuits and removed to Fort Dodge. His death occurred in this city in 1911. The mother passed away in 1910. To Dr. and Mrs. Kime two children have been born: Marion, who is sixteen years of age; and

Isabelle, aged nine. The family is affiliated with the Presbyterian church and Dr. Kime gives his political support to the republican party. He has served on the city council for two years. He takes an active interest in everything that pertains to the welfare, growth and progress of the city.

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### NICHOLAS J. WAGNER.

For more than sixteen years Nicholas J. Wagner has been successfully identified with the mercantile interests of Duncombe, being numbered among the substantial business men of the town. He was born on the 10th of May, 1871, in Hamilton county, this state, and is a son of John and Angelica (Chrisman) Wagner, natives of Germany. The father when a young man of twenty-three years emigrated to the United States with his parents, who located at Aurora, Illinois. There he found employment in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, continuing in their service until 1868. In the latter year he resigned his position and came to Iowa, and purchasing a hundred and sixty acres of land in Hamilton county turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He possessed the diligence and thrift characteristic of his nationality, and in the development of his interests met with such gratifying returns that he was able to add to his holdings from time to time until at one time they aggregated four hundred and forty acres. Having accumulated a competence that warranted his retirement, he left his farm in 1896 and removed to Duncombe, where he passed away in January, 1906, at the age of sixty-eight years. The mother, who has passed the seventy-fourth anniversary of her birth still resides in Duncombe.

There was no particular occurrence in the life of Nicholas J. Wagner to distinguish his boyhood and youth from that of other farmer lads of that period. His time was largely divided between the work of the school-room and that of the fields. His education was obtained in the public schools of Eagle Grove and Webster City, following which he gave his undivided attention to the work of the home farm. Preferring a commercial to an agricultural career, he left the parental roof at the age of twenty-five years, and came to Duncombe. Here he subsequently formed a partnership with J. J. Clausen, with whom he was associated off and on for ten years. Later he bought the interest of Mr. Clausen in the enterprise and has

ever since conducted the business with the exception of three years, when he resumed farming. He has prospered in his undertakings and owns stock in the Duncombe Savings Bank and one of the valuable residence properties of the town. He also holds the title to a farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Hamilton county and one of eighty acres located on section 3, Washington township, this county.

On April 25, 1898, Mr. Wagner married Miss Katie Bailey, a daughter of Francis and Ellen (Casey) Bailey, natives of Ireland. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wagner, in the following order: Anna, who has passed the thirteenth anniversary of her birth; John Francis, who is eleven years of age; Kathleen, who is anticipating her tenth birthday; Harold, who is six years of age; Bernice, whose death occurred in 1909 at the age of eighteen months; and one who died in infancy.

The parents are communicants of the Roman Catholic church, in the faith of which denomination they are rearing their family. Fraternally Mr. Wagner is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He votes the democratic ticket and is now and has been for some years a member of the board of trustees of Washington township. He has also served on the town council and is a member of the school board of Duncombe. He is a man of positive purpose and definite ideas, who stands for progress in either public or private life, supporting by his energy and enthusiasm every movement he feels will advance the welfare of the community or promote its development.

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#### PERRY GRUVER.

The life record of Perry Gruver is a record of a struggle against constantly increasing obstacles, through difficulties and hardships, to final success. He was aided in his battle by energy and industry, a firm purpose and a determination to conquer. He has now achieved his ambition and is one of the most prosperous and respected farmers in Webster county, Iowa. He was born near Ozark, Illinois, March 15, 1839, and is a son of Abraham and Anna (Bluhbaker) Gruver. His father was born near Philadelphia in 1800 and received his early education in that state. He later removed to Kendall county, Illinois, and remained there until 1845 when he went to Clinton county, Iowa, where he died in 1866. He was a miner and worked at his

occupation in Iowa and Illinois for some time and later followed the occupation of lumbering. He was a staunch democrat and a member of the Christian church. His wife also was born in Philadelphia and was married there. She came with her husband first to Illinois and then to Iowa and died in Clinton in 1862. She was also a devout adherent of the Christian church. They were the parents of the following children: Rosetta and Lydia, both of whom are deceased; Isaac, deceased, who served three years in Company I, Twenty-sixth Iowa Regiment during the Civil war, taking part in twenty-five engagements without being wounded once; Elizabeth, the wife of Joseph Upergraft of Monmouth, Jackson county, Iowa; Marion, who served for one year in the Sixth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and is now living in Des Moines; Julia, the wife of Frank Burdick of Fort Dodge, Iowa; M. Gruver; and Haley, the wife of James Wood, deceased.

Perry Gruver received his early education in the public schools of Clinton, Iowa, and remained at home with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age. When he had attained his majority he rented a tract of land in Clinton county and farmed upon it for three years. At the end of that time he removed to Greene county, Iowa, where he purchased forty acres of farm land just south of the town of Lohrville. For two years he cultivated his holdings in this section and made many improvements. Subsequently, in 1870 he purchased land in Clinton county and lived upon his farm there for two years. He then returned to Greene county and farmed near Cedar Creek for two years. At the expiration of that period he abandoned farming and went to Lehigh, Iowa, as an employe in the Black Diamond coal mines. He spent one winter in this occupation and then removed to Gowrie, where he worked on a section of the railroad during the summer. Leaving his family established in Gowrie Mr. Gruver determined to try his fortunes as a trapper. He located his headquarters at Sibley, Osceola county, Iowa, and trapped in that section of the country for a few months. He had a short time previous to this by strict economy and hard saving, amassed a small amount of money with which he had purchased land in Webster county. He then removed to his holdings in that section and in association with his brother-in-law, Gus A. Gurney, built a small house upon this land, which is still owned by our subject and occupied by his son, Isaac. His land in Webster county is located on section 35, Roland township. Here Mr. Gruver and Mr. Gurney lived for two years engaged in general farming and making many valuable improvements. The farm

was profitable and Mr. Gruver was soon able to purchase eighty acres directly north of his first tract of land. He lived in the small house which he built upon the new land about three years and then sold his entire holdings. Forty acres were purchased by outsiders and the other forty became the property of Mr. Gurney. Perry Gruver then moved back to the little house, which he had built when he came to Webster county and remained there for one year. His success at this time was not remarkable and he soon gave up the land which he was operating and the year following removed to Emmetsburg, Palo Alto county, Iowa. Here he remained for six years following agricultural pursuits and meeting with a little more success than had attended his early efforts. When he was financially able he came back to Roland township and purchased eighty acres on section 29, which he improved and operated for ten years, gradually bringing it to a high state of productivity. Eventually he traded this to Mr. Gurney and received in exchange his present farm located on section 35. At the time this transaction was completed there was on the land which Mr. Gruver received a small house. This he entirely remodeled, installed modern and sanitary equipment and he now makes it his home. During the past few years Mr. Gruver has added materially to his holdings and his success has been rapid. He bought out the holdings of the heirs of his former partner, Gus A. Gurney, and is now the proprietor of one hundred and twenty-four acres of the most fertile land in Roland township. He is constantly improving his farm and has erected new buildings and outhouses as well as sheds and fences. He carries on agriculture along modern and progressive lines and is keenly interested in every new development in farm machinery.

In 1862 Mr. Gruver was united in marriage to Miss Emma P. Gurney. She was born in Saxony, Germany, and is a daughter of Godfried and Hannah Rosetta (Wingler) Gurney, both natives of Germany who came to Mason county, Wisconsin about the year 1845. Seven years later they removed to Clinton county, Iowa, where they lived until the father's death. His wife then removed to Greene county where she died. They were the parents of ten children: Emily, who is deceased; Fred, who came to his death by starvation during his service in the Civil war; Charles, Agnes, Minnie, Anna and Henry, all of whom have passed away; one child, who died in infancy; Emma P., the wife of the subject of this sketch; and G. A., deceased. Mrs. Gruver

has always been a worthy helpmeet of her husband in his struggles toward success. Their married life has been completely happy and they have gained many friends in this section of the country. They were the parents of eight children: Anna, Mary and Haley, deceased; Hannah Rosetta, who is married to J. H. Wood of Gowrie, Iowa, and has five children, Amy, Perry, Jim, Charles and George; Marion, working in the coal mines in Des Moines; G. A., who resides in Havelock and married Miss Lottie Johnson, by whom he had two children, Pearl and Ray; Henry, who lives in Fort Dodge, Iowa, with his wife, who was Miss Libbie Lilly, and his son Charles Perry; and Isaac, who married Miss Lola Lizer, by whom he has one daughter, Doris, and lives on the home farm.

Mr. Gruver gives his political allegiance to the republican party but beyond casting his vote each election day takes no active part in public affairs. He has always been a loyal citizen and endeavored to serve his country in the Civil war but was refused on account of disability. He has always done his duty in the various relations of life and is a devout member of the Christian church. He is one of the oldest settlers in this part of the country and his life has been an active factor in its up-building. He has made a valiant struggle against constantly dominating obstacles and has well earned the prosperity which he enjoys and the esteem and respect of his fellowmen.

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#### OTTO G. YANT.

Otto G. Yant has been cashier of the Vincent Savings Bank since April, 1911, and is also doing able and intelligent work as general manager of the Vincent Telephone Company, operating exchanges here and in Thor, Iowa. He is a practical business man with the power to make his ability effective and has brought the two enterprises with which he is connected to a gratifying degree of success. He has been a resident of Iowa all his life, his birth having occurred in Polk county, on April 25, 1885. He is a son of William and Emma (Biddle) Yant, natives of that section. His father was reared and educated in Polk county and after he grew to maturity he engaged in general farming until he was thirty years of age. At that time he learned photography and followed that line of occupation until his health failed, when

he went to Calhoun county, where he owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Upon this he settled, made various improvements and did general farming until 1900, going in that year to Rockwell City, where he again established himself as a photographer and where he is still carrying on a successful business. The mother of our subject is also living.

Otto Yant completed an education begun at Mitchelville, Polk county, in the public schools of Calhoun county and at the Rockwell City high school. After laying aside his books he learned the barber's trade working at that occupation for two years. His banking career began in 1906, when he entered the First National Bank of Rockwell City as bookkeeper. He did able and thorough work in this capacity and retained his identification with the institution until July, 1910, when he entered the employ of the First National Bank of Fort Dodge as utility man. This position he held for some time but was subsequently sent to Emmetsburg as assistant cashier in a bank of that city. After two months he came to Vincent, where he was appointed cashier of the Vincent Savings Bank, entering upon his duties in April, 1911, and being still active. The institution with which he is identified is one of the leading banks in Newark township. It has a capital of fifteen thousand dollars and its officers are among the most able business men of the section. The president is Albert Rossow, while Paul Huffman of Eagle Grove, Iowa, holds the position of vice president. Mr. Yant is a successful banker because he has had personal experience in various aspects of that occupation and because he is conservative and systematic as a financier. He is valuable to the Vincent Savings Bank by reason of his industry, practical methods and intelligent skill, which have made him successful and have been factors in the growth and development of the enterprise with which he is connected. He is also general manager of the Vincent Telephone Company, which operates exchanges here and at Thor, Iowa, and is a stockholder and director in the enterprise.

In April, 1912, Mr. Yant was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth A. Clark, a daughter of E. W. and Mattie Clark, natives of Illinois. He is prominent in fraternal circles, holding membership in Twin Lakes Lodge, No. 478, A. F. & A. M., of Rockwell City, Iowa. He is also prominent in the affairs of Silver Lake Chapter No. 312, Order of the Eastern Star. He is a member of the Church of Christ, while his wife gives her allegiance to the

Methodist religion. He is a republican in his political beliefs but has never sought prominence in a public capacity. In business affairs he has proven capable and reliable and his industry and well directed activity are bringing him a gratifying measure of prosperity.

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CARROLL D. PARSONS, M. D., D. D. S.

Dr. Carroll D. Parsons of Vincent, Iowa, combined the practice of medicine and dentistry and since 1909 has been a resident of this city and has gained a gratifying degree of success in both professions. His career as a dentist began in 1900 and to his activities in this line he added the general practice of medicine in 1908. He is able and thoroughly trained, his prosperity being the natural result of his energy and efficiency. He is well known in various sections of Iowa, having been a resident of the state since his birth, which occurred in Waterloo, Blackhawk county, in November, 1879. He is a son of Roscoe and Ellen (Spaulding) Parsons, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New Jersey. His father came to Iowa when he was still a child and with his parents, settled in this state, where he was reared and educated. The family located in Waterloo before the Civil war and later the father entered a Chicago medical school, receiving his degree of M. D. He located in Traer, Iowa, and here practiced his profession until his death which occurred in March, 1903. His wife survives him.

Dr. Parsons was only three years of age when his parents moved to Traer. He attended the public schools of that community and in 1897 entered the State University at Iowa City, graduating in dentistry with the class of 1900. He located immediately in Lake City, Iowa. Here he was successful until November, 1904, when he removed to Alden, where he practiced one year. At the end of that time he went to Iowa City, entered the medical department of the State University and after one year's study came to Chicago, graduating in 1908 from the Hahnemann Medical College of that city. In the same year he went to Oelwein and practiced dentistry and general medicine for one year in that city before he came to Vincent, where he has since resided. He is progressive, modern and up-to-date in every

phase of his practice, keeping constantly in touch with every new development in medical research, investigation and experiment. His knowledge is constantly broadening and his practice increasing as his ability becomes more widely known.

On May 16, 1911, Dr. Parsons was united in marriage to Miss May McElroy, a daughter of Harry, and Elizabeth (Redding) McElroy, the former a native of Chicago and the latter of Minnesota. The father was a railroad man and was killed in an accident in his native city in 1895. His wife survived him by one year.

In politics Dr. Parsons is a consistent republican and votes the party ticket, although his professional duties prevent him from taking active part in public affairs. He is a member of the Fayette County Medical Society and is prominent in the affairs of the Order of Elks and the Order of Moose, holding membership also in the Knights of Pythias. His wife is a devout adherent of the Roman Catholic church. He is one of the successful general practitioners and dentists in Vincent. The zeal with which he has devoted his energies to his profession and the careful regard which he manifests for the interests of his patients have brought him a large practice and made him very successful in its conduct.

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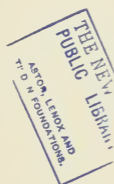
### FRANCIS B. DRAKE.

Francis B. Drake is living in a pleasant and comfortable home in Otho, to which he removed about twelve years ago, when he definitely abandoned agricultural pursuits after a period of almost fifty years' successful identification with farming. He is numbered among the early settlers, in Iowa and his activities have been connected with an important period of development and have gained him recognition as a man of resourceful ability and well directed energy. He was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, July 27, 1832, a son of David B. and Caroline (Wilson) Drake, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New Hampshire. The father came to New York about the year 1828 and there engaged in farming, cultivating and developing a tract of timber land and obtaining his water supply from a plant which he erected upon his property. Later he became interested in a woolen factory but abandoned this line of occupation in



Francis B. Drake

Caroline E. Drake



order to resume his agricultural pursuits. He cleared and improved a large farm in St. Lawrence county and operated this until his death, which occurred in 1869. He had survived his wife since 1864.

Francis B. Drake received his education in the public schools and St. Lawrence Academy of New York state, and made use of every opportunity in this line, fitting himself for teaching, which occupation he followed for a number of years. In 1854 he came west, settling in Webster county, where he entered a claim for one hundred and sixty acres of land in Otho township, paying for this property a dollar and a quarter per acre. Shortly afterward he sold his first farm and bought one hundred and twenty acres in the same township, which he developed and improved for ten years. When he sold this tract of land he bought another farm in Clay township, which he operated until 1900, when he disposed of his property and moved to Otho, where he erected a fine modern home, in which he has since resided. He is living practically retired but is dealing to some extent in Nebraska real estate.

On April 16, 1857, Mr. Drake was united in marriage to Miss Caroline E. Hart, a daughter of Norman and Marcia (Hale) Harf, natives of Connecticut. The father came to Adams county, Illinois, in 1834 but remained only a short time. Removing to Kane county, he took up a tract of fine farming land and operated and improved this until 1854, when he disposed of his property and came to Webster county. Here he took up eighty acres in Otho township and each member of his family also entered land claims. Upon their combined holdings Norman Hart carried on general agriculture, improving his property and developing and operating it along the most systematic, progressive and modern lines until his death, which occurred March 30, 1880. He was one of the earliest pioneers in Iowa, coming to this section when there was not a railroad within the state limits and none beyond the boundaries of central Illinois. He was a splendid type of the early settler, hard-working, energetic and intelligent, and was perhaps one of the greatest individual forces in the upbuilding and growth of Webster county. His wife passed away in February, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Drake have three adopted children, all of whom are married.

Mr. Drake gives his allegiance to the republican party and has always been active and prominent in local affairs, holding

various important public offices and serving faithfully, ably and conscientiously in the interests of his fellow citizens. He was county surveyor and county supervisor for a number of years and also did effective work as road supervisor. Among his other offices may be mentioned those of township c'erk, assessor and trustee, in all of which capacities he served efficiently and always with a view to the best interests of his constituents. During the Civil war he served as postmaster of Otho, being the first postmaster of the village. At the present time he is justice of the peace and is bringing to the discharge of the duties of this office the same unquestioned integrity, well directed energy and experienced discrimination which have marked the entire course of his public life. He and his wife belong to the Congregational church. For almost half a century he has lived in Iowa and has promoted the growth of its most important resource—agriculture. He has witnessed the progress and evolution which have come in fifty years of modern activity and to a great extent has been identified with the change, working ably and intelligently in his active years and earning his retirement by energy and diligence.

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#### MAUDE LAUDERDALE.

While Iowa as a state has never accorded to woman the right of franchise, various districts have acknowledged her capability for service in public office and have called her to positions of trust and responsibility. Such is the case in Webster county, where Miss Maude Lauderdale of Fort Dodge is serving as county recorder. Her birthplace was Sunnyside Farm in Buchanan county, Iowa, her parents being Edwin I. and Sadie F (Marshall) Lauderdale, natives of Ohio and Brooklyn, New York, respectively. The Lauderdale family is of Scotch origin, while the Marshalls were English and the Luthers of German descent. The paternal grandfather, George H. Lauderdale, also a native of Ohio, wedded Mary Pocock and followed the occupation of farming. Eventually he and his wife removed to Iowa, settling in Buchanan county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits for a considerable period, until his removal to Independence, where he and his wife spent their remaining days. He

passed away at the age of eighty-nine and his wife when eighty-four years of age. They were the parents of three sons: Edwin I.; John W.; and Frank, who was killed in the Civil war. The maternal grandparents of Miss Lauderdale were Robert and Mary Catharine (Luther) Marshall, the latter a direct descendant of Martin Luther. The former was born in Brooklyn, New York, and there engaged in the manufacture of rope, but after his removal to Iowa, in 1860, he purchased two farms—one in Grundy county, which he bought for his two eldest sons, and one in Humboldt county, upon which he took up his abode, cultivating and improving it until his death, which occurred on June 26, 1875, when he was well advanced in years. His wife survived him and died October 7, 1899, in Fort Dodge at the age of eighty-nine years. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom the following reached years of maturity, namely: Kate, who gave her hand in marriage to John Frazier; Thomas A.; Robert; Mary Grace, who wedded Thomas Cummings; Sadie F., wife of Edwin I. Lauderdale; John L.; Annie R., the wife of James B. Williams; William K.; Cornelia C., the wife of C. P. Byam; and Margaret Antoinette.

Edwin I. Lauderdale was reared in Ohio and became a practicing dentist. Removing westward during the pioneer epoch in the history of Iowa, he became one of the incorporators of Fort Dodge, where he practiced his profession in connection with Dr. F. G. Slate. He served his country as a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting in an Ohio cavalry regiment. His wife, Sadie F. Lauderdale was born and reared in Brooklyn, New York, came to Fort Dodge in 1860 and is still residing here. They had but two children, the elder being George H., now a resident of Chicago. Miss Lauderdale is related to several of the prominent old families of Webster county, including James B. Williams, now deceased, who was the son of William Williams, the founder of Fort Dodge. Her uncle, Dr. John L. Marshall, also deceased, was a leading dentist of the city. He came here when a young boy, was reared to manhood in this county and practiced dentistry here for many years, until his death which occurred on June 23, 1890. He married Luella Wallace, a niece of Judge W. N. Meservey, one of the old settlers and early judges here and the father of the Hon. S. T. Meservey of Chicago.

Maude Lauderdale was reared in Fort Dodge from the age of eight years, attended the public schools and, passing through

consecutive grades, was in due time graduated from the high school. The first money she ever earned was as committee clerk in the Iowa house of representatives and later she became assistant postmistress of Fort Dodge under C. F. Duncombe, filling that position for three years. She then took up the profession of bookkeeping, which she followed for several years, and in 1902 she became connected with the abstract business as a partner of her uncle, James B. Williams, under the firm name of the Webster County Abstract Company. The uncle died in 1903 but Miss Lauderdale still continues the business successfully. In 1910 she was elected recorder of Webster county for the years 1911 and 1912 as the candidate of the democratic party and is now acceptably filling that position. She has had broad and varied business experience, recognizes the value of carefully systematized interests and of methodical effort and as the incumbent in the office of county recorder is making a most excellent record. She holds membership with the Episcopal church and is highly esteemed in social circles.

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### JOHN W. HAGANS.

John W. Hagans is one of the progressive, substantial and enterprising citizens of Barnum, where he is living retired after forty-four years' identification with business and agricultural interests in Iowa. His residence in Webster county dates from 1879 and since that time his activities have been connected with important industries in this section. He was born in Orange county, New York, on January 5, 1838, and is a son of Wesley and Ellen (Brown) Hagans, the former a native of Philadelphia and the latter of New York. His father was a practicing physician and left his native city in 1857 in order to locate in Goshen, Indiana, where he followed his profession for the remainder of his life. He died in 1866. His wife passed away in Barnum, in 1907.

Mr. Hagans remained in New York until he was nineteen years of age and completed his education begun in the public schools of that city in Indiana, where he removed with his father in 1857. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1862, locating for practice in Goshen, where he entered into partnership

with Mr. Dickinson, under the firm name of Dickinson & Hagans. He was successful as a lawyer until 1866, when he abandoned this field in order to establish himself in the photograph business at Goshen, in which he continued for one year. In 1867 he purchased a shoe store, which he conducted until he came to Iowa in 1868. In this state he located in Clinton county, where he was employed along mechanical lines until 1879. He had an instinct for this work and was successful at it. He then came to Webster county purchasing one hundred and sixty acres on sections 30 and 31, Johnson township, to which he later added eighty adjoining acres. He set about the improvement of this property along progressive and modern lines and gained prosperity as general agriculturist during the short period in which he followed farming, subsequent to which he returned to Clinton, where for eighteen months he worked at different occupations, coming back at the end of that time to his farm in Webster county, which he cultivated until 1902. In that year he retired from agricultural life and moved to Barnum, where he has since resided.

On January 18, 1866, Mr. Hagans was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Gillett, a daughter of Thomas J. and Mary Gillett, natives of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Hagans were the parents of six children: Francis J., who passed away in 1868; Frances May, who is forty-three years old and the wife of Howard Moore of Missouri; Charles W., who died in infancy; Charles G., who resides in Omaha, Nebraska; Nellie; and one child, who died in infancy. Mrs. Hagans died on July 12, 1898.

Mr. Hagans is now active in the insurance business in this city and has varied interests, all of which are forces in local growth and expansion. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company and is vice president of the Farmers Grain Dealers' Association of Iowa. He also acts as president of the Barnum Telephone Company and was the organizer of this corporation and of the local elevator company. He has an inborn faculty for invention and is adding to his income by the sale of the Hagans' fence post, which is fully protected by United States and Canadian patents. It has many advantages over the common forms now in use, being cheap, simple, strong and very lasting. It is handled by the American Patent & Promoting Company of Detroit, Michigan.

In his political views Mr. Hagans is a consistent democrat and served as president of the Johnson township school board for

twenty years. His name is always prominent in any movement looking toward the further development and improvement of the section in which he resides and his life has been a great individual force in its progress. He is a member of the Masonic lodge, having been identified with this order since 1861. He is a Methodist in his religious views and a man of exemplary life. He has all the adaptability and the force of personality which distinguish men who have been active in various representative enterprises. He is straightforward, upright, energetic and honorable, and possesses those characteristics which are the essential qualities of public spirit.

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### CHARLES HENRY ALLSTOT.

Charles Henry Allstot was born July 7, 1868, in Dubuque county, Iowa, and received his early education in the public schools in Greene county, that state. After completing his education he removed to Webster county, Iowa, in 1885 and in partnership with his brother, James Allstot, was engaged in farming for four years. At the end of that time he established himself in farming on his father-in-law's farm, where he remained for nine years. He then purchased a farm of forty acres from Jesse Miles. There he established his home and has since continued to devote his attention to general farming and stock-raising.

Mr. Allstot was united in marriage, March 2, 1890, to Miss Clarinda Black, a native of Lehigh, Iowa, and a daughter of James Monroe and Mary Jane (Fye) Black. The father was born in the southeastern part of Iowa and celebrated his marriage in Webster county. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Cora Arva; Edward; Clarinda, now Mrs. Allstot; and John, who married Nettie Rufer, by whom he has one child, Rufer M. Black. The father of this family died in Burnside township at the age of fifty-five and the mother was fifty years of age when she passed away. Both are buried in Otho cemetery. The father was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and the mother of the United Brethren church. Mr. Black for twelve years previous to his death had been one of the trustees of Burnside township and lived at the time of his death a retired life on his

farm of two hundred acres in Webster county, which has since passed through the probate courts and each of his surviving heirs have received their portion of the property, fifty acres of which was the share of the old homestead deeded to Mrs. Allstot. To Mr. and Mrs. Allstot three children have been born: Roy, who died in infancy; and Archie Ray and Clyde Bertsel, both at home. Mr. Allstot is known to be one of the enterprising farmers of his locality and is numbered among the progressive, useful citizens of his part of the state. Of late he has purchased a fine farm property near Windholm, Minnesota.

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#### A. L. BESHEY.

A. L. Beshey, mayor of Tara, Iowa, in the eighteenth consecutive year of his service, well known as a general merchant and hotel proprietor and active in local democratic politics, was born in France, July 5, 1852, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Phillips) Beshey, natives of that country. The father was a farmer and operated a small tract of land in France. He came to America in 1858 and settled near Portsmouth, Ohio. Here he purchased timber land and cleared and improved his eighty acres, operating the property successfully for eighteen years. At the end of that time he sold out and went to Illinois, where he farmed upon rented land until his death. His wife passed away in September, 1888.

Mr. Beshey was reared at home and completed an education begun in the public schools of Ohio in Lee Center College at Lee Center, Illinois. When he laid aside his books he worked out as a farm hand until he acquired enough money to join his brother in the purchase of a threshing outfit, which they were successful in operating for five years. At the end of that time Mr. Beshey came to Iowa, where he engaged in the mercantile business at Walcott. This enterprise he operated for about four years, disposing of his holdings eventually in order to go to Clark county, Kansas, where he preempted a quarter section of land, proved up his title and purchased it for one dollar and a quarter an acre. Later he bought one hundred and sixty acres of timber land, to which he added another tract of school land of similar size. He improved this property and operated it for six years, at the same time engaging as a hardware and farm implement merchant. He was successful in both lines of occupation but finally disposed of

his interests in Kansas and moved to Missouri, where he bought two hundred and fifteen acres in Polk county. Upon this he carried on general agricultural pursuits for six years, coming to Webster county, Iowa, at the end of that time. He located immediately in Tara, six miles west of Fort Dodge, bought village property and established himself in the mercantile business, which he has conducted since that time. In 1909 he purchased a business building and six town lots and opened a hotel, with which he is at present connected. He has been successful in both lines of occupation, having founded his prosperity on industry, straightforward business methods and unquestioned honesty.

On January 1, 1886, Mr. Beshey was united in marriage to Miss Percilla Miller, a daughter of Ralph and Elizabeth Miller, the former a native of England and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Beshey became the parents of seven children. Those living are Elmer, Ivy, Celia M., Alice, Louis and Edna.

Mr. Beshey is well known and favorably regarded in democratic political circles. He is at present mayor of Tara and has served in this capacity for the past eighteen years. He was for a long time school director of his township and did able work as justice of the peace, which office he is now holding. He was appointed postmaster but refused the office, with the result that there is no postoffice in the village. He belongs to the Roman Catholic church. There is hardly a line of legitimate activity in which he is not interested and active. His business affairs are thriving and ably conducted, his political record is clean and free from any suspicion of corruption, and his labors along both lines have been constantly constructive and his life has been worthy and honorable because it has been useful and valuable.

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### WILLIAM LINGARD.

William Lingard, who is engaged in business in association with his brother, George E., conducts a meat market and grocery at Kalo and also operates a similar enterprise at Otho, both establishments having a large patronage. His birth occurred in Lincolnshire, England, on the 7th of April, 1852, his parents being Edward and Esther (Smith) Lingard, who were also natives of that country. The father, a mason by trade, brought his family

to America in 1853, locating in Canada, where he remained for two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Iowa, locating first in Dewitt, Clinton county, and later in Boone, where he worked as a coal miner and resided until 1882. In that year he came to Webster county, settling at Kalo, where he engaged in coal mining and made his home throughout the remainder of his life. In 1862, in the defense of the Union, he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which command he remained until the cessation of hostilities. His demise occurred in May, 1904, while his wife was called to her final rest on the 30th of November, 1908.

William Lingard, who was brought to America by his parents when but one year old, acquired his education at Dewitt, Clinton county, this state. After putting aside his text-books he began mining coal at Boone, being thus employed for some time. At the age of nineteen years, however, he went to Nebraska, took up a homestead and resided thereon for six years. It was in 1882 that he came to Kalo, Webster county, locating here in the same year that his father took up his abode in this county. He again turned his attention to coal mining and was thus employed until forty years of age. In 1892, in partnership with his brother, George E., he opened a meat market at Kalo, to which he later added a grocery department and which he has conducted continuously since with gratifying success. The brothers also conduct a meat market and grocery store at Otho and have built up an extensive trade in both places, having won an enviable reputation by reason of their straightforward and honorable business dealings. They do an annual business amounting to over twenty-three thousand dollars. William Lingard and his brother own a well improved farm near Kalo and have an attractive home in that town.

On the 25th of April, 1878, Mr. Lingard was united in marriage to Miss Marion Stewart, a daughter of Louis and Jane Stewart, both natives of Scotland. Our subject and his wife have three children, namely: William, who is thirty-two years of age and assists his father in the conduct of his business; Matilda J., the wife of Adam Krouse, a miner and farmer; and Florence, who is fifteen years of age and is under the parental roof. Mr. and Mrs. Lingard reared a boy named Gus Anderson, who passed away in 1899 at the age of eighteen years.

William Lingard is a republican and has served as trustee of Otho township for six years. He belongs to the local organization of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is also a valued member of the Congregational church. He has many friends in the community where he resides, and his excellent traits of character have gained for him the respect and regard of his fellowmen.

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### LOUIS O. MYRLAND.

Louis O. Myrland, a blacksmith and rural mail carrier in Badger, Iowa, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, in December, 1872, and is a son of O. P. and Emily P. (Simondson) Myrland, natives of Norway. The father came to this country with his parents in the early '50s, the family locating in Wisconsin, where O. P. Myrland grew to maturity. He followed farming for a number of years, renting a tract of land in Dane county, which he finally purchased and improved, operating it until 1888. In 1892 he moved to Jackson, Minnesota, where he and his wife have since resided.

Louis O. Myrland was reared and educated in Wisconsin and in that state he began learning the blacksmith's trade. At the end of two years he came to Badger, where he completed his apprenticeship. He worked at this occupation for a year and a half, at the end of which time he was able to purchase a shop of his own, which he has since operated. His business is rapidly increasing, prosperity having come to him because he labored diligently to attain it. He has applied his energies successfully to the promotion of his enterprise and has won success by the sure method of hard and continued work. In February, 1906, he was appointed rural mail carrier of Badger township and has continued in the service since that time. He owns his business property and a comfortable and pleasant home in the city in which he resides and is interested in its future growth and welfare. He is a stockholder in the Badger Telephone Company, seeking to do his utmost to encourage local enterprises.

In June, 1900, Mr. Myrland was united in marriage to Miss Belle Lee, a daughter of Helge and Anna Lee, natives of Norway. The father was an early settler in Wisconsin, where he followed

farming until the outbreak of the Civil war. He was drafted in the Federal army and served for some time, returning to Wisconsin after his discharge. Here he resumed agricultural pursuits, operating his farm until 1877, when he came to Iowa, settling in Hancock county, where he purchased a fine tract of land, which he brought to a high state of development before his death, which occurred in 1896. His wife is still living and makes her home in Britt, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Myrland became the parents of two children: Marvyl, who is nine years of age; and Fern Anniveve, who died in April, 1909, when she was three months old.

Mr. Myrland is a member of the Lutheran church of Badger and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is well known in local republican politics and has served continuously for ten or twelve years as member of the town council. He never seeks to evade the obligations of citizenship and is influenced in his public activities by an interest in the growth and prosperity of his section. His standards both in business and in politics are modern and progressive and his energies, well applied and directed, have brought him a gratifying measure of success.

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### THOMAS H. DAWSON.

Thomas H. Dawson is successfully engaged in business as a member of the Craig & Dawson Coal Company, with offices at No. 4 North Seventh street in Fort Dodge. A native of Webster county, he has spent his entire life within its borders and now makes his home at No. 1302 Fifth avenue, South, in Fort Dodge. His birth occurred on the 3d of February, 1877, his parents being Jerry and Mary Jane (Wonders) Dawson, the former a native of England. His paternal grandfather, Robert Dawson, was also born in England and devoted the greater part of his life to general agricultural pursuits. His demise occurred at Kalo, this state. To him, and his wife who bore the maiden name of Alma Peart, were born twelve children, six of whom grew to maturity, as follows: Joshua; Jerry; Nellie, the deceased wife of David Williams; Mary, the deceased wife of Tabor Moore; William, who is a resident of Otho, Iowa; and Elizabeth, who gave her hand in

marriage to Orville Brown and resides in Calhoun county, Iowa. The maternal grandparents of our subject, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wonders, became early settlers of this county and here passed away when about seventy years of age. They had three sons and four daughters, Mary Jane, Margaret, Thomas, Martha, John William, Elizabeth and Joseph.

Jerry Dawson, the father of Thomas H. Dawson, was nine years of age when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, the family home being first established in Coshocton, Ohio, and later at Moingona, Iowa. Subsequently the family spent four or five years in Manson, this state, and then removed to Kalo, where both Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dawson passed away when well advanced in years. Jerry Dawson removed from Manson to Coalville and thence to Kalo, where he became a coal mine operator. During the period of the Civil war he enlisted for one hundred days' service as a private, becoming a member of Company G, One hundred and Forty-third Ohio National Guard. He was a staunch republican but never sought nor desired public office as a reward for his party fealty. Fraternally, he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He passed away at Kalo in 1907, when sixty-three years of age, and the community lost one of its most substantial and esteemed citizens. His widow, now sixty-four years of age, lives at Otho and is a Methodist in religious faith. To Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Dawson were born five children, namely: Elizabeth, the wife of William Schnurr, of Otho, Iowa; Thomas H., of this review; Emerson W., deceased; Alma, the wife of Alexander Reid, of Otho; and Mary Ellen, living in Otho.

Thomas H. Dawson, whose name introduces this review, was reared to manhood in Webster county and obtained his early education in the country schools, while later he attended the public schools of Kalo. Subsequently he continued his studies in the Fort Dodge high school and also in Tobin College. Since putting aside his text-books he has been continuously identified with the coal business operating in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and also in Higbee, Missouri. He recently disposed of his interests in the latter place and now devotes his entire attention to the conduct of the Craig & Dawson Coal Company of Fort Dodge. His efforts have been attended with success and he has long enjoyed an enviable reputation as one of the representative and prosperous business men of the city.

On the 1st of January, 1900, Mr. Dawson was united in marriage to Miss Ursula Griggs, a native of Mexico, Missouri, and a daughter of Benjamin and Mary Jane (Morris) Griggs. Her father, who participated in the Civil war as a Confederate soldier, passed away at Higbee, Missouri, but the mother survives and makes her home in Denver, Colorado. She has five living children, Commodore Griggs, Sonora, Ursula, Henry B. and Data. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson have one son, Emerson Blanton. The mother is a devoted member of the Episcopal church. Fraternally, Thomas H. Dawson is known as a Master Mason. His political allegiance is given the republican party. His entire life has been passed in this county and he has attained a creditable position in business circles, while his sincere cordiality has won him the friendship of many.

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#### GEORGE E. LINGARD.

George E. Lingard is well known in business circles of Webster county as the proprietor of meat markets and grocery stores at Kalo and Otho, which establishments he conducts in partnership with his brother, William Lingard. He was born in Dewitt, Clinton county, Iowa, on the 2d of October, 1866, his parents being Edward and Esther (Smith) Lingard, more extended mention of whom is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of William Lingard.

George E. Lingard obtained his early education in Boone county, Iowa, and later continued his studies in Nebraska. In 1882 the family home was established at Kalo, Webster county, this state. George E. Lingard subsequently made his way to the Pacific coast and later took up his abode in Colorado, where he spent about eight months at farming and railroading. After returning home he was engaged for some time in digging coal and then went into the meat business in association with Charles Wilson at Kalo. A short time afterward he was married and removed to the state of Washington, where he was engaged in coal mining for about one year. On the expiration of that period he returned to Kalo and embarked in the butcher and grocery business, in association with his brother William, in partnership with whom he has since conducted establishments of that character at

both Kalo and Otho. They do an annual business amounting to over twenty-three thousand dollars and own their store buildings at both Kalo and Otho. The brothers have residence property in Fort Dodge, and our subject owns an attractive home in Kalo and he and his brother are stockholders in the Farmers Elevator Company of that place.

On the 24th of January, 1889, Mr. Lingard was joined in wedlock to Miss Martha Nelson, a daughter of Moffit and Margaret (Johnson) Nelson, both of whom are natives of Scotland. The father emigrated to the United States at an early date, first locating in Kentucky and later coming to Kalo, Webster county, Iowa, where both he and his wife still reside. Mr. Nelson was engaged in mining during his active business career. To Mr. and Mrs. Lingard have been born four children, Harley, Myrtle, Merritt and one who died in infancy.

At the polls George E. Lingard supports the men and measures of the republican party. He has served as school director and has also acted in the capacity of constable. His fraternal relations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Foresters, the Eagles and the Knights of Pythias, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church. He has gained the esteem of all with whom he has come into contact because of his upright and honorable principles and also by reason of the straightforward methods he ever follows.

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#### PETER MALLINGER.

Agricultural pursuits always engaged the attention of Peter Mallinger until 1907, when he removed to Duncombe, identifying himself with its commercial activities. In the development of his various business interests he has manifested as marked efficiency and capability as he evidenced in his farming pursuits, and he is regarded as one of the foremost business men of the town. He is a son of John and Mary (Barnech) Mallinger, natives of Germany, and was born in Fort Washington, Wisconsin, in October, 1866. John Mallinger was only eighteen months of age when brought to the United States by his parents, who located in Wisconsin. There he was reared and educated, sub-

sequently turning his attention to agricultural pursuits. For several years he owned and operated a farm in Wisconsin, but in 1875 he sold it and coming to Webster county invested the proceeds in a place in Colfax township. Here he continued farming with such success that he became one of the extensive property holders of his community, owning at one time five hundred acres of land. He devoted himself to the further improvement and cultivation of his place until 1904, when he withdrew from active work and removed to Duncombe. Here he is now living retired at the age of seventy years, while the mother is sixty-six.

As he was a lad of nine years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa, the education of Peter Mallinger was begun in the common schools of his native state and completed in those of Webster county. His agricultural training, like that of the average country youth, was begun in childhood, his duties being increased from year to year as his strength and sense of responsibility developed. By the time he had attained his maturity he was thoroughly familiar with the practical methods of tilling the fields and caring for the crops and soon thereafter began operating a farm of his own of a hundred and twenty acres in Colfax township. The excellent training he had received under his father, united with his diligence and determination of purpose readily enabled him to win success. Not only was he able to further improve his original holding but he kept adding to his tract until he owned three hundred and eighty acres. General farming and stock-raising engaged Mr. Mallinger's entire attention until 1907, when he rented his place and removed to Duncombe. The next year he became associated with six others in the organization of the Duncombe Cement Tile Company, of which he has ever since been the manager. In 1910, together with P. T. Flynn and James Toohey, he went into the automobile business, having the local agency of both the Ford and Case cars. This proved to be a very lucrative venture and the next year they built a fireproof garage thirty-seven by seventy feet. This firm also operates a garage at Fort Dodge, where they have extensive property interests. When the Farmers Savings Bank was organized in October, 1911, Mr. Mallinger still further strengthened his connection with local business interests by accepting the presidency of this enterprise, and here as elsewhere has given efficient service. He owns one of the best residences in the town and two blocks of residence lots.

On the 8th of February, 1893, Mr. Mallinger was married to Miss Margaret Wagner, a daughter of Bernard and Mary (Fidler) Wagner, natives of Germany. Of this marriage there have been born six children: William, who is fifteen years of age; Catherine, who is six; Joseph, who has passed his third birthday; John, who died in 1895 at the age of one year; Matthew, who died when five weeks old in 1895; and Peter, who died in 1897.

The parents are communicants of the Roman Catholic church and fraternally Mr. Mallinger is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is a democrat in politics and is a member of the town council, while for four years he was assessor of Colfax township. Mr. Mallinger is a man of more than average diligence and business sagacity, as he has evidenced in his career, and is meeting with the prosperity invariably won through the intelligent exercise of these qualities.

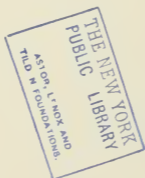
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#### LORENZO S. COFFIN.

Iowa has furnished her full quota of eminent men to the nation, men of pronounced ability who have become leaders in statescraft, in commercial, industrial and professional life, and others, whose influence has been given for the amelioration of conditions that in any way oppose or hinder the development of their fellowmen. Quiet and unostentatious in manner, seeking not self-aggrandizement in any direction, Lorenzo S. Coffin has become known as one of the most honored sons of the Hawkeye state, not because he has won distinction in politics, or even because he has attained exceptional success in business, but because his efforts have been, and are still, unselfishly given for the benefit of his fellowmen. Recognizing the law of universal brotherhood, his sympathetic spirit has prompted action, that, guided by sound practical judgment, has resulted in great good. He has long since passed the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten, the snows of eighty-nine winters having fallen upon his head, but old age is not necessarily a synonym of weakness and it need not suggest as a matter of course inactivity or helplessness. There is an old age which is a benediction to all with whom it comes in contact; that gives out of its riches stores of wisdom and experience and grows stronger mentally and spiritually as the days pass. Such is it with Lorenzo S.



L. S. Coffin



Coffin, whose career is a source of encouragement to his contemporaries and an abiding lesson to the young.

In pioneer days of Webster county Mr. Coffin took up his abode within her borders. He was born in Alton, New Hampshire, April 9, 1823, on the farm which was also the birthplace of his father, Stephen Coffin. The family is of English lineage, and at an early epoch in American development was founded in Massachusetts, whence the grandfather of our subject removed to the Granite state, settling on the farm on which both Stephen and Lorenzo Coffin were born. There he spent his remaining days, carrying on agricultural pursuits. His death occurred when he was about seventy-five years of age. In his family were nine children, all of whom reached mature years and reared families of their own.

Stephen Coffin was trained to the work of the home farm and for many years carried on agricultural pursuits in New Hampshire. He was also a clergyman of the Baptist church and his influence was widely felt in behalf of Christianity. He died in Dover, New Hampshire, when about seventy-five years of age. His wife bore the maiden name of Deborah Philbrook and died at the age of thirty-eight. She was a native of Sanbornton, New Hampshire, representing an early family of sturdy pioneers. Her father, David Philbrook, was born at Hampton Beach, New Hampshire, and spent the greater part of his life on the farm at Sanbornton. He lived to the advanced age of more than ninety years—a noble Christian man who commanded the respect of all with whom he came in contact. He had eight sons and eight daughters, all of whom reached mature years, and to each he gave good educational privileges, thus fitting them for life's practical duties. In the family of Stephen and Deborah (Philbrook) Coffin were three daughters and a son. Catherine P. Coffin was a teacher in the seminary in Charleston, Massachusetts. She married Benjamin Stanton and both engaged in educational work for several years at Union College, Schenectady, New York. Christiana became the wife of Rev. D. B. Cowell, of Maine. She possessed considerable poetical talent and was a writer for many magazines and papers. Her death occurred in 1863. Sarah, who was the wife of Mr. Lynde, died when about sixty years of age.

Upon his father's farm Lorenzo S. Coffin spent his youth and early became familiar with the labor of field and meadow. His educational advantages at the time were meager, but later the family removed to Wolfboro, New Hampshire, where he became a student in the Wolfboro Academy. He lost his mother when fourteen years of

age but continued at home until he had attained his majority, when he began working as a farm hand in the home neighborhood, and thus he acquired a sum sufficient to enable him to continue his education and prepare for teaching, a profession which he followed with success for some time. Oberlin College, of Oberlin, Ohio, was then one of the most popular schools of the country and he went there with the intention of pursuing an extended course of study, but remained only a year and a half in the preparatory department of the college.

In the meantime Mr. Coffin was united in marriage to Miss Cynthia T. Curtis, and they went to Geauga county, Ohio, where both engaged in teaching in the Geauga Seminary. Among their pupils were James A. Garfield and Lucretia Rudolph, his future wife, who first met in that school. The failing health of Mrs. Coffin obliged them to give up teaching after one year's connection with Geauga Seminary, and in the winter of 1854-5 Mr. Coffin came to Iowa on a business trip. Being pleased with Webster county and the advantages offered and with firm faith in its future he resolved to locate here. He secured a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, which he entered when the government placed the land on the market, and thus began the development of his fine farm, to which he has added by subsequent purchases from time to time until he now owns seven hundred and twenty acres. The experience of his boyhood and early manhood upon the farm now proved very valuable to him. With characteristic energy he began the development of his land, and Willow Edge Farm is now one of the most desirable and valuable farming properties in the state, supplied with all modern improvements and accessories. On the brow of the hill about three miles from Fort Dodge, near which he decided to erect his buildings, is a large spring of purest water, flowing continually, while other springs upon the place feed the stream, the Lizzard, which winds its way, bordered by magnificent forest trees, through the farm. Mr. Coffin has made a specialty of the breeding and raising of fine stock, and now owns one of the largest and choicest herds of shorthorn cattle to be found in the west, keeping from one hundred to two hundred head. He also breeds for the market Poland China hogs and Oxford Down sheep, generally keeping one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty or more of the latter. From two to five men are employed upon the farm and the work is under the immediate supervision of J. I. Rutledge, son-in-law of Mr. Coffin, who is a joint-owner in the stock on the farm. Modern machinery, practical and improved methods and all conveniences and accessories for facilitating the work are here found.

Not long after coming to this home Mr. Coffin was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died April 20, 1856. In February, 1857, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary Chase, of Orleans county, New York. Three children were born unto them, but only one is living, Carrie C., the wife of J. I. Rutledge. One child died in infancy and Kitty May died at the age of fourteen years.

While successfully conducting his private business affairs, Mr. Coffin never confines his efforts selfishly to his work. From 1859 to 1876 he used to leave his home Sunday mornings very early and on horseback would ride to different parts of the country, where no minister was sent, and preach the Gospel. He would often ride forty miles and in return never received a dollar in pay, doing it all for the benefit of his fellowmen, during which time he also conducted a great many funerals. In the early days he was the editor of the agricultural department of the Fort Dodge Messenger and many have profited by his practical wisdom as set forth in the columns of that paper. For many years he was also an active member of the State Agricultural Society and labored earnestly and effectively in connection with that organization to promote the interests of the farming people throughout the state, but while his interest in the subject has never abated, other duties have made heavy demands upon his time, forcing him to cease his work in that field to attend to more pressing needs. He had in the meantime served his country loyally in the Civil war, enlisting in the fall of 1862 as a member of Company I, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry. He joined the army as a private, but was promoted in turn sergeant, quartermaster sergeant and chaplain. For about a year he remained at the front and then returned to his home.

Perhaps the work which has made Mr. Coffin most widely known and which has been of the broadest benefit to his fellowmen is that in connection with providing better conditions for railroad employes. In the year 1883 he was appointed by Governor Sherman to fill a vacancy on the railroad commission, caused by the retirement of the Hon. James Wilson, and on the expiration of that term in 1885 was reappointed, continuing in the office until 1888. It was during this period that Mr. Coffin became interested in that which he is making his life work—promoting the happiness and improving the condition of railroad men. In speaking of his experience he says: "It seems, as I look back through the years of my past life, that I can see the guiding of a Divine Providence bringing me to the position where I might realize the condition of the great multitude of suffering, helpless men.

the misery of whose condition seemed to be growing worse every day, with no indication or hope of its growing better, and as I occupied the position of railroad commissioner, receiving reports continually from all over the state and the United States of the terrible slaughter and crippling of railroad men, I then for the first time saw the need for work in this field and determined by the help of God to do something to alleviate the suffering of those men." He then immediately began to investigate more fully the conditions and surroundings of the railroad men of the country and to agitate the subject of the power brake and automatic car coupler, and finally succeeded in securing the enactment of the law requiring them to be placed on all cars on lines in Iowa, which was passed by the Iowa state legislature in 1888. This was the first practical law ever enacted by any state for the safety of railroad men. The law was strongly opposed by the railroad companies. Railroad managers said its enforcement would cost them millions of dollars annually and would do little, if anything, toward lessening the likelihood of accident. Through the efforts of Mr. Coffin and the cooperation of societies of railroad employes and of private citizens to whom the record of railroad accidents was appalling, the law was finally passed, with the result that the number of accidents on railroads, caused simply in the coupling of cars alone, has been reduced three-fourths.

To the compiler of this sketch Mr. Coffin said: "To Iowa must be given the honor of enacting into law the first practical bill ever presented to any legislature for the safety of life and limb of railroad men." It was drafted by Mr. Coffin and he says that he spent a full month on the bill. So anxious was he that the bill should be so drawn that no court could set it aside as unconstitutional, that he consulted with one of the judges of the Iowa supreme court on every section of it. Mr. Coffin has the great satisfaction of knowing that from the day it became a law its constitutionality has never been questioned. He says that it went through the Iowa legislature with practically a unanimous vote, not a vote against it in the senate and only three or four against it in the house. The roads were given five years to do the work of equipping their cars with the safety appliances that the law required. But here came a great dilemma—all of the Iowa roads were interstate roads and engaged in the interstate traffic. Foreign cars from outside roads would, of course, have to be equipped in the same manner as the cars of the Iowa roads or they could not receive them, or else the lading must all be transferred

from these foreign cars to the Iowa cars. Here was a very serious problem to be faced.

Mr. Coffin said: "The only way to solve that problem that showed itself to me was through a way so strewn with vast difficulties that it was absolutely appalling and I dared not face it for awhile. Yet it seemed to me it must be done. Some of the states adjoining Iowa copied my bill and made it into a law. If only all the states would do the same and not change a section it would be just the thing, but I could not expect that, and it would take a long while to go from one state to another to get them to pass the same kind of a law. The more I thought of it, I made up my mind that it would be a practical impossibility, and so the alternative was forced on me that a national law must be had. Of course this meant that I must go to Washington and try to get a bill through congress. This seemed so utterly beyond all possibility for a man like me to accomplish that for a while I thought that I would not undertake it, but I could not rest. In my dreams I would see these railroad men crushed between the ends of the cars, hear their awful screams as the iron wheels ground them to pieces under the cars. Finally I thought that I must try, or at least that I would go to Chicago and talk with some of the railroad officials there and ask their advice. I felt sure that the companies that ran roads through Iowa would like to have all other roads to equip their cars as theirs were to be, so there would be an easy interchange of cars from one road to another. I thought that would help in this great move. To show how hopeless the undertaking was in their judgment I will relate what was said in my talk with Marvin Hughitt, president of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway. When I went into his office he was busy examining some papers, and after a little while he said in rather a sharp and vexed tone: 'Now, Mr. Coffin, as you have got your state to enact that law, I want that you should go to every state adjoining Iowa and get them to enact such a law as Iowa has.' I said that I realized the great importance of a uniform law and could see no way to secure it only through congress, and that I had about made up my mind to go down to Washington and get it to pass my bill. Mr. Hughitt dropped the papers he had in his hand on the table before him and looked at me with great amazement and said: 'Mr. Coffin, congress is a great body; you can't move that.' My after-experience showed me how well that man judged of what, as he well thought, a wild undertaking, and how well he understood and appreciated the difficulties I would have to encounter.

"In the spring of 1888 the interstate commerce commission, then just organized, invited what state railroad commissioners were then created, to come to Washington and hold a conference. That noted jurist, Judge Cooley, of Michigan, was president of the national commission. Although my term of office had expired a few weeks before the date of that conference, our state commission urged me to attend that meeting. I did so, and near the close of the last session of that meeting, by the request of a member of the Iowa board, I was asked by Judge Cooley to address the conference. This I, of course did, giving them the mass of statistics I had been compiling, which was new to them all. After I had sat down commissioners from other states gathered around me and said: 'Mr. Coffin, you must be wrong, for we can't think that it is possible that there is such a fearful killing and maiming of our railroad men.' I assured them that they were absolutely correct, as far as Iowa was concerned, for they were from the reports of the roads themselves to our state board, as our law required them to report to us every accident to their men.

"As but very few of the states had as yet required the roads to report as ours did, I had to get the number of killed and injured in other states by the rule of three. If Iowa, with so many miles of road, had so many accidents to their men, how many will all the miles in the nation give us? Afterward, from a talk with an old railroad man, I found that my basis of calculation was wrong, for I should have taken it by the number of engines, for on most all of the roads east there would be a great many more trains a day than in the then sparsely settled Iowa. When I made my computations on this basis the total was so awful that I did not dare to give the exact figures to the public. Afterward Judge Cooley wrote me to give to his national commission what facts and figures I had gathered up and what other information I had gained on this matter in my five years of experience as a commissioner. I am telling all this to you, sir, that you may see, as I do, the wonderful way I was led on so as to have more and more of the standing before the public and the powers that then were. Let it be understood all along that I now realized that I was only an instrument in the hand of God and the Father, to be used by Him for a great good to the great army of railroad men who are now an absolute necessity to the prosperity of this great country. The information I sent to Judge Cooley was by the request of General Benjamin Harrison, then president-elect of the United States, sent to him, and used by him in his inaugural when he was sworn into his high office. He did it in these words: 'It is a disgrace to our civilization that men

in a lawful employment for a livelihood should be exposed to greater danger than soldiers in the time of actual war.' He very strongly recommended speedy action by congress. So you see how in this unthought of and unpremeditated way a mighty opening was made for me. Then I had two especially strong and influential friends, one in each house of congress. One was W. B. Allison in the senate, and Colonel David B. Henderson in the house, now its speaker. Here again was another of the series of special providences that show so plainly all along the road, but of which I was not aware then, but now can see as clearly as the noonday sun. Some years before at one of the congressional elections it was a question whether Colonel Henderson would be returned, as he at that time had a very strong competitor, and I suppose that it is no egotism in me to say what was then pretty well understood to be the fact, that my influence with the railroad boys and with the farmers of his district had much to do with saving him. This had made him a firm friend, and he was ready to aid me all in his power, which was great, and he wielded it to good advantage for the bill. Well, the 4th of March was coming on. I had been working on the bill for congress with a great deal of care and labor. I had been very anxious before the inauguration to have Mr. Harrison say a word for the boys in his address. I wanted to know how he felt, but never having met him, and there being such a throng around him, I could see no way to get to him to ask him to remember the boys. Finally, Colonel Henderson gave me a letter to him, and so I had a chance to speak to him. His first words after reading the letter were, 'Well, what is it?' In as few words as I could I told what I wanted. In an instant he replied, 'It is in there,' meaning in his address, and those were his last words to me. I grasped his hand, thanked him with tears in my eyes and left.

"Congress convened. My bills were introduced and referred to the committee on interstate commerce. For four long years I was in what was called the third house of congress, 'the lobby.' It is not necessary for me to try to tell you of the long struggle. It would fill a book. I fully realized that public opinion had much to do with acts of congress, so wherever I heard of a great gathering of influential men, such as great gatherings of church officials of every denomination, there I would go and get a few moments time to plead for the lives and limbs of the railroad boys and for Sunday rest as well, getting them to pass strong resolutions which I had usually already prepared. And so I worked. The first congress of Harrison's administration closed without my being able to get the bills out of the

committee's hands. They were introduced again at the opening of his last congress, and from that time on the railroads were there in force fighting the bill. They told the committee that it would cost the roads one hundred million dollars to meet the requirements of that bill. But God loved these trainmen more than He did the millions of the corporations, and the bill went through and President Harrison signed it and made it a law two days before he left his high office, on the 2d of March, 1893. The law gave the roads five years to equip their cars as the law directed, but near the close of the fifth year the roads came before the interstate commerce commission and pleaded for five years more, but the five railroad brotherhoods with myself were there in opposition, and they got only two years and then seven months after that. As the result of that law there are at least fifteen hundred less deaths and over five thousand less painful accidents per year than when President Harrison signed that bill. So beneficial is this law found to be in an economical sense, to say nothing of the saving of life and limb, that the very officials that then called me a crank and abused me so unmercifully, now take me by the hand and thank me for what they then cursed me for. Yet it never seems to me that I have done anything but what was my plain duty to do after the awful facts came to my knowledge. I never could have respected myself if I had refused to try, frightened at the lions I really saw in the way. So then let the praise go where it belongs, to God."

Mr. Coffin certainly deserves the unbounded gratitude of all railroad men throughout the country, by securing the enactment of the national law which was passed by congress March 2, 1893. When President Harrison signed the "safety appliance bill" the interstate commerce commission reports show that there were twenty-seven hundred and thirty-seven railroad men killed that year and over thirty-three thousand injured, some being badly crippled for life. After the cars were equipped as the law directs, the commission reports that the effect of that law had reduced the casualties to railroad men over sixty-five per cent, notwithstanding that had been a dull year for the railroads and far less men were employed than in other years; so that it is perfectly safe to say that two thousand were and have been saved and over twenty thousand painful accidents have been prevented yearly since 1900.

That Mr. Coffin's efforts along this line have received well deserved recognition from men of ability and weight who are capable of appreciating their true value may be plainly seen by this statement in a letter written by Rev. William Salter, D. D. "When I read Mr.

Coffin's article a thrill of pleasure and state pride ran through me that Iowa had a man of such divine humanity and of so much patience, skill and tact to do such good work and to tell the story in the simple and direct style of Ben Franklin's autobiography. It ought to have a wide circulation." Mr. Salter also wrote Mr. Coffin personally to express his appreciation of the splendid work accomplished. In a letter dated January 18, 1903, he says: "I have just read your delightful paper in *The Annals* for this month and beg to send you my hearty thanks and a few blessings for writing it. You have added an additional benefit to the great services you have rendered to humanity by giving the history of your labors for 'Safe Appliances on Railroads' in so clear and vigorous a style and with such admirable simplicity and straightforwardness. Your paper will become a classic in Iowa literature and bring honor to our state as well as to yourself that its author is an Iowa man. It will encourage other good minds in the future to labor with patience and hope like your own for amelioration and improvement in every department of industry and commerce and trade. With sentiments of high respect and warm esteem, very sincerely yours, William Salter."

Mr. Coffin has done more than any other individual to promote temperance among railroad men by the use of what is known as the "white button." He has had made a little white button, in which are the initials R. R. T. A.—Railroad Temperance Association—and these buttons he gives to all railroad employes who will promise to wear one and abstain from the use of liquor. He has paid out over five thousand dollars alone for these buttons, having distributed more than two hundred and fifty thousand of them, and is still engaged in the work, always having a supply of them when he travels. This conspicuous little button is a constant reminder to the wearer that he has given his word to abstain from the use of those beverages which destroy manhood and render the individual unfitted for the performance of life's duties. A lasting monument to the work of Mr. Coffin is seen in the home for the disabled and infirm railroad men at Highland Park, Illinois, near Chicago. All brotherhood railroad men are eligible as members, the only requirement being that they contribute as much as "the expense of one cigar a month." This entitles any brotherhood man in railroad employ, in case of accident or inability, to a good home for life, containing all necessities and comforts. At this time the work is progressing nicely under the guidance of Mr. Coffin and the cooperation of the four railroad brotherhoods, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Brotherhood of Locomotive

Firemen, the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors. These four orders have contributed to the home and at the present time they are planning an eighty thousand dollar fire-proof building as an addition to the present home. There are now between sixty-five and seventy-five inmates. Mr. Coffin is the president of the Railroad Employes' Home, and, more than that, he is the friend of all railroad men, having a warm personal interest in their welfare. The home is now complete and represents an expenditure of about one hundred and forty thousand dollars.

Another important work which will stand as a monument to Mr. Coffin's philanthropy is the home for ex-convicts which he organized and promoted in connection with other leading citizens of Fort Dodge and the vicinity. In 1891 he donated twenty acres of land and ten thousand dollars in cash for the building, besides devoting a great deal of his time to the work. Upon its completion it was one of the finest structures of this character in Webster county and it continued as a convicts' home for six years, when the Anamosa penitentiary was turned into a reformatory and here the work which Mr. Coffin had begun was carried on. He, therefore, deeded the original building and twenty acres of land to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Iowa, in order that they might there establish the Benedict Home, which was formerly located at Des Moines. At the present time there are thirty inmates of this institution and since its foundation it has cared for and relieved over thirteen hundred girls, all of whom have benefited by the worthy and useful teachings of Mrs. McClelland, who is the superintendent and directs the work of a number of assistants.

In the last few years Mr. Coffin has given much of his time and attention to the promotion of a work in which he has always been interested, namely, that of the spreading of temperance among all classes, but especially among the railroad men. In the promotion of this enterprise he has spent five thousand dollars for temperance badges and has distributed over two hundred and fifty thousand white buttons which are the insignia of the cause. Mr. Coffin in writing of the work which he has done in the Railroad Temperance Association, says: "It is not yet two years since the white button started on its mission. Now go where one will he finds it worn by railroad men wherever a locomotive whistle is heard. That little pledge button for grander manhood, pleads for happier homes, pleads for wife and children; has been heard by thousands of brave, great-hearted men, who have been true as steel to its meaning. The wearing of the white button is the practical carrying out of the teachings of true brotherhood prin-

ciples as taught in the lodge room. There all are not only taught but bind themselves under solemn obligation to care for the wives and children of each brother. Everyone knows that the greatest enemy to the family of a brother railroad man is the saloon. The wearing of the white button by brothers who never go inside a saloon is a strong and earnest appeal to a weak brother to keep out. It means that we are defenders of home, that we love our future, our wives and our children more than we do a saloon. It means that the great brotherhoods of railroad men have escaped from the saloon's fascinating power."

Mr. Coffin has ever been a friend to the poor and needy, to the oppressed and the suffering, and, believing that the spark of divinity is in every individual and may be fanned into flame, he is ever ready to extend a helping hand to those in need of either material or moral assistance. His home while in Ohio was a station on the famous underground railroad when slavery existed in the land and his strong abolition principles led him to ally himself with the republican party when it was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery. He has since been one of its stalwart supporters.

To what church does he belong? We answer, to the church which Christ founded when he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel," when he gave the mandate, "Bear ye one another's burdens," and said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me." One of the most interesting features of the Willow Edge Farm is its chapel, which he built, about twelve years ago for the benefit of his daughter, who was greatly interested in Sunday-school work. In connection with the same is a circulating library for the community. Services are held Sunday afternoons—held in the afternoon that they need not conflict with the morning or evening services of the city churches. Pastors and people of all denominations are welcome, and the gospel of Christ—forgiveness and love—is preached. Along the same line of Christian liberality is his effective work in the Young Men's Christian Association, in which almost each Sunday he addresses a meeting of this organization.

His sympathies took the practical form of liberal financial support, for he contributed one hundred dollars to the building in Marshalltown, Iowa, of the first Railroad Young Men's Christian Association ever erected in Iowa. Mr. Coffin delivered the address of dedication and has since been actively interested in the movement.

In business he has achieved splendid success, but the most envious could not grudge him his prosperity so worthily has it been won, so well used. He has builded to himself a monument more lasting than stone in the freewill offering of grateful hearts.

Who can measure the influence of such a life?

"Our echoes roll from soul to soul  
And grow forever and forever."

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### KNUTSON BROTHERS.

Adolph and Alfred Knutson, twin brothers, are operating one of the most prosperous business enterprises in Badger, being engaged in the implement and automobile business with which they have been connected for the past seven years. This is only one of the many important undertakings with which they have become identified in the course of fourteen years of active business life, during which time they have never separated their interests, working harmoniously together to their mutual advantage. They were born in Badger, August 28, 1877, and are the sons of Christopher and Anna (Arent) Knutson, natives of Norway. The brothers were reared at home and were educated in the public schools of Badger, finishing their education at Tobin College in Fort Dodge, Iowa. After completing their studies they engaged in farming in partnership, operating their father's tract of land for five years. At the end of that time they sold the property and went to North Dakota, where each took up a homestead claim, which they still own. They combined their properties and operated the enterprise as one large farm, being engaged at the same time in the buying and selling of land. After two years they returned to Badger and established themselves in the implement and automobile business, with which they have been identified for the past seven years with constantly increasing success. They also own and operate a cement block factory and own the building in which they are doing business as well as their own home in the residence section of the village. They also own a valuable farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Badger township. They have been in all the business relations of their

lives upright, straightforward and honorable and these qualities distinguish their private characters.

Adolph Knutson was married in October, 1909, to Miss Cora Lund, a daughter of Rasmus and Anna (Christenson) Lund, natives of Norway. Mrs. Knutson's father came to America with his parents at an early date, locating in Badger township, Webster county. When he grew to manhood he became identified with a local railroad and later went to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he followed the same line of occupation for twenty years, returning at the end of that time to Badger, where he purchased land. He operated his farm for several years and only abandoned agriculture in order to serve as sheriff, which office he still holds. Adolph Knutson and his wife have a daughter, Ruth C., who is a year and a half old.

The two brothers affiliate with the republican party and Alfred served as assessor of Badger township for three years and as justice of the peace for two years. He also did able and effective work as a member of the town council. Both brothers are stockholders in the Farmers Elevator Company and in the Badger Telephone Company, and affiliate with the Improved Order of Red Men, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Loyal Order of Moose, being also prominent in the Masonic order. They belong to the Lutheran church. Their relations have always been most harmonious and their partnership productive of good results. Both are active, progressive and substantial business men with the ability to make their enterprises successful. They do not neglect their duties as citizens and though they are only thirty-five years of age, have gained distinct prosperity which promises well for greater future attainment.

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#### LOUIS W. NEWDECK.

The agricultural and stock-raising interests of Webster county found an able and successful representative in the late Louis W. Newdeck, who owned and operated eight hundred and eighty acres of land in Douglas township. He was born in St. Anthony, now East Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the 3d of May, 1852. His parents were Louis and Catherine (Wolf) Newdeck, natives of Germany, the father's birth having occurred in Wurtemberg on

Christmas day, 1821, and that of the mother in Westphalia, on the 7th of December, 1826. Louis Newdeck emigrated to the United States in 1842, first locating in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. From there he went to Illinois, where he engaged in the cattle business, following which he conducted a dry-goods store in Stillwater, Minnesota. He subsequently became identified with the lumber interests of St. Anthony, that state, being one of the pioneer settlers of that vicinity. At the time of the Indian uprising in 1862, he joined Anson Northrup's company organized among the settlers, remaining in the service until the natives were subdued and peace was once more restored. The next year he crossed the plains to Helena, Montana, where he established a cattle ranch. He remained there until the spring of 1864, when he returned to Minnesota, but he later went back to the west, and was killed by the Indians while crossing the plains with a load of provisions for a mining camp in the gold fields of Idaho. He was long survived by the mother, who died on the 14th of April, 1881.

The boyhood and youth of Louis W. Newdeck were passed in his native state, his education being obtained in the public schools of Minneapolis. He was a promising and capable youth, and in 1870, at the age of eighteen years began his business career in Duluth, Minnesota, where he owned and conducted a meat market for a year. At the expiration of that time he went to Austin, Minnesota, and there engaged in the same business until 1872, when he removed to Red Wing, Minnesota. He conducted a meat market in the latter place for nine years with very good success, and at the end of that period went to Minneapolis, where he engaged extensively in the meat and cattle business until 1887. In the latter year he came to Webster county and purchased eight hundred and eighty acres of fertile land in Douglas township. The remainder of his life was devoted to agricultural pursuits and stock-raising in both of which activities he met with more than an average degree of success. He bred Polled Angus cattle, his herd numbering two hundred head, French coach horses and Poland China hogs, all high-grade stock. He was widely known throughout this part of the state as a stockman, and had one of the best developed and equipped farms in the county. He was a tireless worker, possessed more than average foresight and sagacity in recognizing business opportunities and was endowed with the diligence and enterprise that enabled him

to successfully develop anything he undertook. From early youth he led a life of marked activity, and as his powers were capably organized and intelligently directed he prospered in the promotion of his interests.

On the 9th of October, 1878, Mr. Newdeck was married to Miss Clara O. Eames, a daughter of Captain Obadiah and Mary (Bigelow) Eames. The father was born in 1824 and died in 1881, while the mother's birth occurred in 1837 and her death in 1904. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Newdeck, Winnie E., Louis M., Harry W., Mabel C. and Gertrude M.

Mr. Newdeck was prominently connected with the Masonic fraternity, and in matters of religious faith he was a Methodist, his widow and children also being identified with this church. In politics he was a stanch democrat. Mr. Newdeck was one of the foremost agriculturists of the county, in the progress and development of which he took an active and helpful interest, belonging to that class of men, who in the development of their personal interests, never lose sight of their duties as citizens.

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#### MRS. EMMA ROY.

Mrs. Emma Roy, who has been postmaster of Moorland since 1910, has made her home in Webster county for over thirty-two years. She is a native of Missouri, her birth having occurred in St. Louis in August, 1864. She is a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Kerns) O'Melia, who were born in Ireland. The father emigrated to the United States in early life, locating in St. Louis, and was employed on steamboats plying on the Mississippi river until 1866. In that year, he decided to seek his fortune in the gold fields of California, and leaving his family in St. Louis went to San Francisco. There he passed the remainder of his life, his death occurring about 1870. He is survived by his widow, who is seventy-one years of age and makes her home with her daughter, in Moorland.

The first sixteen years in the life of Mrs. Roy were passed in St. Louis, her education being obtained in the public schools. In 1880, she and her mother removed to Webster county, which has since been their place of residence.

In the month of December, 1885, was celebrated the marriage of Emma O'Melia to James Roy, a son of Peter and Mary (O'Neil) Roy, natives of Canada. Of this marriage were born two children: Frank, who is twenty-four years of age and a resident of Chicago; and Louise, who is twenty-two years of age, a trained nurse of Des Moines, Iowa.

In religious faith the family are Roman Catholics. Mrs. Roy is a capable woman and has many friends in Moorland, where for two years she has held the office of postmaster, discharging her duties in a highly creditable manner.

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### WILFRED E. ALTON, M. D.

A progressive and enterprising mind scientifically inclined, a thorough knowledge of surgery in all its intricacies, the power of deep and continuous study and a firm faith in the present and ultimate usefulness of life are the qualities which make Dr. Wilfred E. Alton a prominent and efficient physician. He is now practicing with rapidly increasing success in Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he is well known as a representative member of his profession. He was born in Monroe county, Wisconsin, December 4, 1863. His father, Joseph Alton, was a member of a prominent family of that name, whose ancestral home is in Athelstan, England. He was born on the ocean, the son of an officer in the English navy. He went to New York with his parents when he was still a child and was educated in the public schools of the state. When he laid aside his books he immediately engaged in agricultural pursuits, residing for a short time in New York, but subsequently removed to Wisconsin, where he remained until 1872. In that year he went to Minnesota and settled on a farm which he operated, improved and cultivated with much success until his death, in March, 1906, at the age of eighty-six years. He took part in the Civil war as a member of the Twenty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving for one year, after which he received his honorable discharge. He was an active participant in the engagement with the Indians which has since become known as the Spirit Lake massacre. In all the relations of life Joseph Alton was distinguished by thorough honesty and integrity of purpose and his death caused widespread and genuine regret. His wife, Matilda



W E. Altou M.D.

THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ASTOR LENOX TILDEN  
FOUNDATIONS.

(Barrett) Alton, whose birth occurred in New York state, died in June, 1904, two years before the demise of her husband.

Dr. Alton was nine years of age when his parents removed to Minnesota. He received his primary education in the public schools of that state and made use of every opportunity to expand his knowledge. He was graduated from the Wadena high school and immediately entered the State University of Minnesota. He engaged in teaching school from 1886 until 1890. It was his desire to become a member of the medical profession but he did not receive paternal sanction to this plan. His father on the contrary wished him to become a farmer and offered him a section of land if he would remain at home. He felt, however, that his opportunity was in the other direction and refused to devote himself to agricultural pursuits. The fact that his father would not give him a cent to aid him in preparing for practice did not cause him to lose heart. He knew that others had been able to make their way through college unaided and resolved that he would also do so. In 1891 he began his studies and in 1896 was graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College. During the last year his living cost him on an average of nine cents per day. He brought to his early studies in medicine a keen and intelligent interest in the profession which he intended to adopt, marked sympathy with the sick and suffering and broad humanitarian principles. These qualities guided his actions and influenced his career. When he laid aside his text-books to enter upon his profession he located at Estherville, Iowa. From 1896 to 1899 he remained in that city and built up during these years an enviable practice, to which he gave his entire time and attention. He came to Fort Dodge in 1899 and has been one of the prominent and successful physicians in this city since that time. Dr. Alton has at all times realized his responsibility to the people whom he serves, and, desiring to advance his professional attainments, in 1898 he entered the Chicago Polyclinic, pursuing a post-graduate course in medicine until 1901 and doing advanced special work in pathology under the able instruction of the head of the surgical staff of that school. In his practice he has specialized to some extent in surgery. He was chief of the surgical staff of the Webster City Hospital until 1905, when he became a member of the surgical staff of the new St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Hahnemann Medical Societies of Chicago and Iowa, and his name is well known in all of these organizations.

On March 10, 1898, Dr. Alton was united in marriage to Miss Jennie A. Salisbury, a daughter of O. A. and Vestalina (Kenyon) Salisbury. The parents were natives of New York and went to Wisconsin in the early days of its settlement. In 1888 they removed to Estherville, Iowa, where the father took a prominent part in business and political circles until his death in 1905. He was a justice of the peace for many years, making a most creditable record in that connection. His wife is now living in the family home at Estherville and has reached the seventy-sixth year of her age.

Politically Dr. Alton gives his allegiance to the prohibition party and is always ready to give his support to its principles. He is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and of the Knights of Pythias. He affiliates with the Order of Red Men and belongs to the Royal Arcanum and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He and his wife are members of the Methodist church in Fort Dodge, actively connected with religious work.

Although deeply interested in his profession, Dr. Alton has not allowed medical practice to narrow his mind into a set groove. There is hardly any field of municipal or commercial activity in Fort Dodge in which his name is not prominent, and his reputation as a business man is second only to his prominence as a physician. He owns two thousand acres of land in Florida and an extensive ranch in Oregon. He has invested in Oklahoma, Texas and Iowa farms and his ventures have always been successful because they have been judiciously made. He owns the beautiful residence in which he resides at No. 1217 Fourth avenue, North, Fort Dodge, and has extensive interests in local industrial enterprises. He is a stockholder in the Iowa Foundry & Machine Company, in the Lehigh Clay Manufacturing Company and the Armony Company. He is distinguished in his professional and business life by activity, industry and unwavering integrity. While he has applied himself closely to the practice of medicine and to the conduct of important commercial interests, he has also recognized the fact that the nature of a man's recreation is almost as important as the nature of his vocation and has given such time to pleasures as to maintain an even balance with his professional and business activity. He is an enthusiastic boatsman and has nearly completed one of the largest motor boats ever built in Iowa. It is a torpedo type cabin cruiser with staterooms which accommodate twelve people and it is one of the most completely equipped vessels of its kind in the middle west. Dr. Alton contemplates making a trip down the Mississippi to the gulf and is looking forward to this

vacation with enthusiasm and eagerness. His friends are numbered in every rank of life in Fort Dodge and his life is influenced by genial friendliness and by his recognition of the truth of universal brotherhood.

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### JOHN H. EASTMAN.

In 1898 John H. Eastman came to Barnum and opened the first bank in that village, founding it upon standards of conscientiousness and honor and gaining his reward in quick success. He is well known in local financial circles as a prosperous private banker, being identified with the conduct of his original enterprise. He was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, December 22, 1865, and is a son of Ransom and Phoebe (Crain) Eastman, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. The father went to Wisconsin at an early date and remained in that state for some time, going later to Minnesota, where he purchased land. He improved and operated his farm until his death, which occurred in the spring of 1867. His wife later married W. G. Rundell, who followed farming for some time but later operated a stave factory in Fillmore, Minnesota. After four years he engaged in the egg and poultry business in Spring Valley, in the same state, and for eight or ten years was successful in this enterprise. He then moved to South Haven, Michigan, where he owns and operates a fine fruit farm. He is a veteran of the Civil war, having enlisted at the time of President Lincoln's second call for volunteers in Company C, Third Minnesota Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He is now seventy-six years of age and is still active and successful.

John H. Eastman began his education in the public schools of Spring Valley, Minnesota, and later entered the Oskaloosa, (Ia.) Business College, graduating from that institution with the class of 1888. Immediately afterward he obtained a position as clerk in a clothing store and after eight months of this connection returned to Spring Valley, where he kept books for his stepfather for three years. His banking experience began at the end of that time, when he obtained a position as bookkeeper in the bank at Spring Valley and did able and systematic work for two years. In 1894 he went to Callender, Iowa, and formed a partnership with F. D. Calkins, formerly county auditor of Kossuth county, in the operation of a private bank. They also engaged in the lumber business and were

successful in both enterprises. They sold their interests in 1898, in which year Mr. Eastman came to Barnum, where he opened the first bank in the village, which he still operates. It is a private enterprise and is conducted along the progressive, yet conservative lines. Mr. Eastman understands the details of present-day banking, while his systematic mind and his up-to-date methods have been factors in his success. The enterprise is capitalized at fifteen thousand dollars and is rapidly expanding. Mr. Eastman is interested in various local business concerns, holding stock in the Barnum Telephone Company, of which he was a director and treasurer for six years. He is also identified with the Iowa Land & Live Stock Company of Fort Dodge and owns property in Minnesota and also town lots in Barnum. He erected the building which his business occupies and owns his attractive and modern home and other property in the village. He is also engaged in the implement business here and has a large and increasing patronage. He is one of the heaviest taxpayers in the community, always making his wealth serve worthy ends.

At Algona, Iowa, on October 15, 1897, Mr. Eastman was united in marriage to Miss Luella Wartman, a daughter of S. S. and Maggie (Clancy) Wartman, natives of Canada. In his political affiliations Mr. Eastman is a progressive republican and served for eight years as a member of the town council and is at the present time town treasurer. He held a similar position in connection with the school board for about ten years, during which time he did able work along educational lines. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias, holding a membership in the latter organization in Minnesota. Mr. Eastman belongs to the Congregational church. He is an active and industrious citizen, a man of good business ability, and as a banker he commands the confidence and trust of his depositors. He has worked for success but counts its attainment secondary in importance to the methods and standards by which it has been effected.

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#### JOHN MARTIN MULRONEY.

John Martin Mulroney is one of the older settlers of Webster county, living retired at the southwest corner of Third avenue and Seventh street, in Fort Dodge. His has been a somewhat eventful life in which unfaltering effort, perseverance and ability

have brought him creditable and well earned success. He is now eighty years of age for his birth occurred in County Kilkenny, Ireland, near Callen, November 11, 1832. His parents, Patrick and Alice (Brophy) Mulroney, are also natives of County Kilkenny. The father was a farmer by occupation and on coming to America left his wife in Williamsburg, New York, while he went to Pennsylvania, prospecting for a favorable location. While there, however, he passed away at the age of sixty years. His widow remained in New York until her children were partly grown, after which she came to the middle west and died in Emmetsburg, Iowa, at an advanced age. Both were members of the Catholic church. In their family were eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, as follows: William, Bridget, Mary, Edward, Patrick, Thomas, John M., Catherine, Kieran, Joseph and Margaret.

John Martin Mulroney spent his early youth in Williamsburg, New York, and attended school there. He was afterward at Wolcotte and New Haven, Connecticut, and worked in the forests, making ties for the Naugatuck Railroad. On removing westward to Wisconsin he settled near Mineral Point and engaged in hauling lead to Galena, Illinois. While in Galena he and his cousin, T. H. Tobin, grubstaked a claim for a couple of men, who for it gave them an interest in their flatboat on the Mississippi river. Mr. Mulroney then went up the river to cut cedar posts and pickets which he sold in Dubuque, Iowa. The next spring he and his brother Edward and Mr. Tobin made a trip to California by way of the Nicaragua route. This was in 1850. From Nicaragua they traveled partly on foot, partly on mules and partly by steamer to their destination. After arriving in San Francisco they hired out to a farmer who had been an old sea captain, to help him cut his barley, for which they received nine dollars per day. They worked for him for about six weeks and then went to the gold mines on the east branch of the north fork of the Feather river. At that time the territory in which they were located had not yet been subdivided into counties and lynch rule was the law of the land. As history shows it proved a good law as it prevented many depredations, compelled the use of good language and the display of respect for one another and their rights. Then, too, when justice had to be administered it was done summarily and the culprit was placed where he could harm no one again. During the first three years Mr. Mulroney spent

in the mountains he did not see a white woman nor a white child, nor a dead person, that had died a natural death. In the American valley seven miles away lived a Mr. Stark with his family, who removed there from Missouri. His eldest daughter, about fifteen years of age, was known by all the men of that district as Sister Betsey and if anyone said a word about her it was at the peril of his life, such was the chivalry toward and respect paid to the women of the west in that early day. When Mr. Mulroney and his comrades went to California they carried their tools and supplies on their backs but the next year a pack train was started and the charge of ten cents per pound was made for packing. Their diet consisted of pork, Chili beans and Chili flour twenty-one times a week! Because of that, scurvy broke out among them but the next year they managed to get potatoes and were advised to eat them raw, which they did. This supplied a dietary need and from that time on the men got along nicely. At length they became owners of a pack train and while engaged in packing for some time they also continued to work their gold mine and did very well in their business. In 1857 Mr. Mulroney and Mr. Tobin came to Iowa, settling in Palo Alto county, and upon its organization in the fall of 1858 Mr. Mulroney was elected county treasurer and recorder, the two offices being at that time connected. He served altogether for eight years and then retired. While there he was also postmaster of Soda Bar and was justice of the peace. While filling the latter position he performed the marriage ceremony for the first couple ever married in that county.

When the Indians broke out in open warfare in Jackson and New Ulm, Minnesota, about this time, and massacred a number of white settlers, Mr. Mulroney, his brother and a Mr. Tobin took three horses and went as far as Estherville, Iowa. There they were joined by a Mr. Ridley, who took one of their horses and they proceeded to the seat of trouble to assist the white men. When they arrived at their destination, however, the soldiers had arrived from Spirit Lake before them and the trouble was over. They met wagons on the way toward the south which were filled with wounded and they also met a company of volunteers of about thirty men on the way to Jackson from Fort Dodge, Iowa, and on their way back notified them that the trouble had passed. These Indians were the last seen in this state except those which have become civilized. Mr. Mulroney then re-

turned home and although he had been too late to be of any actual help, his desire to help must be just as highly estimated as if he had been of actual service.

In 1868 Mr. Mulroney came to Fort Dodge and traded a large number of cattle for an interest in a general store. He was thus engaged in merchandising in this city for thirty years or until he retired, occupying a prominent place as a leading and progressive merchant of the city. With its upbuilding he was identified almost from the beginning and his labors have constituted an important element in the work of public progress. He and six others, namely: John F. Dincombe, A. McBane, E. E. Prussia, a Mr. Grant, George R. Pearson, and G. W. Bassett built the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad from Fort Dodge, then called the Fort Dodge & Fort Ridgley Railroad, constructing about forty miles of that line and operating the cars as far as Humboldt. They afterward sold the line to the Minneapolis & St. Louis Company but in connection with Mr. Furlong and Mr. London graded the road from Fort Dodge to Clarion. His labors have always been of a character that has contributed to public progress and improvement. Aside from commercial and industrial activity he became identified with financial interests and is now the vice president of the First National Bank of Fort Dodge.

In 1858 Mr. Mulroney was married to Miss Jane Evans, a daughter of Jeremiah and Hannah (Quimby) Evans. They became the parents of eight children: Mary, the wife of Edmund O'Connell, of Bloomington, Illinois; Josephine, deceased; Kieran; William, of Fort Dodge; Joseph R. and Dr. Charles H., also residents of Fort Dodge; Edward C., of Missoula, Montana, where he is practicing law; and Lewis A., making his home in Fort Dodge. She and her husband were the first couple married in Humboldt county and she passed away in 1882 at the age of thirty-eight years. In 1884 Mr. Mulroney married again, his second union being with Hannah Burns, a daughter of Patrick Burns. There were three children born of that marriage, of whom two are now living, Frank and Robert E., of Fort Dodge, both of whom are students in the University of Iowa, at Iowa City. The daughter Anna died when she was but a year old. Mr. and Mrs. Mulroney are members of the Sacred Heart Catholic church of Fort Dodge, Iowa.

In politics Mr. Mulroney has always been a democrat but has never been an active politician, although he has held several local positions. He has preferred to concentrate his time and energies upon his private business affairs which have been capably managed and have brought to him a measure of success which is gratifying. His business methods have always been such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and he has enjoyed in large measure the trust and good-will of the public.

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### CHARLES B. HEPLER.

Architecture in its broad aspect of municipal building carried on along artistic lines, has for many years occupied the attention of Charles B. Hepler, to whose energy and skill in this profession Fort Dodge owes a great deal of her civic beauty. Mr. Hepler is a native of Philadelphia, in which city his birth occurred on November 6, 1850. His parents were Samuel and Christina (Boyd) Hepler, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in Philadelphia and kept the tollgate at Perkio-menville, Montgomery county, for over fifty years and spent all his life in that city. His death occurred there and there his wife also passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hepler were the parents of two children: Charles B., the subject of this sketch; and Kate, now Mrs. Freed, residing in Atlantic City.

Charles Hepler received his early education in the public schools of Philadelphia. He pursued the usual course of study until he was twelve years of age. At that time, influenced by the rumors of wealth and adventure to be found in the west, he ran away from home and came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he immediately obtained a position in the office of Fred Frost, one of the leading architects in Fort Dodge. Thus it was that the future career of Mr. Hepler was determined. He early gained a knowledge of the principles of architecture and showed a decided talent in this line. He remained with his original employer, Fred Frost, until 1878, when he became associated in business with a Mr. Brown for about five years and so continued until he established himself in business independently in Fort Dodge and built up through many years of active life a flourishing and successful business. He planned, designed and erected a great many of the

finest dwellings in Fort Dodge and gained such an eminent reputation that when the government building was under consideration he was appointed inspector. The present magnificent structure is evidence of his ability and efficiency along this line. It is one of the finest government buildings in the state of Iowa and architecturally perfect in every detail. Mr. Hepler also acted as inspector of the county courthouse. He remained in Fort Dodge, becoming more prominent and successful with every year of his life in this city, until 1907 when he went to Sioux City and accepted a position with Curtis Brothers, architects and manufacturers, and remained in that capacity for three years. He is now residing at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, being expert in the branch house of the Farley-Letcher Company. The home office of this company is in Dubuque, Iowa, and during the period of Mr. Hepler's connection with their affairs their growing business reflected credit upon his ability and professional attainment.

In July, 1871, Mr. Hepler was united in marriage to Mary (Wright) Jenkins, a daughter of William Henry and Eliza (Chase) Wright. Mrs. Hepler's father was born in Ohio and her grandfather in Virginia, while her mother was a native of New York. They were all affiliated with the Quaker religion, and during the years immediately preceding the Civil war were obliged to move to Ohio in order to avoid living in a slave state. They were stanch abolitionists by personal conviction and also on account of their religious principles. The father later went to Pikes Peak in the days of the Colorado mining boom and became successful as a miner and property owner in that section. He eventually removed to California and became a substantial and representative citizen of Sacramento. He was elected sheriff of the county and was the first man to hold that office. After five years of residence in California Mr. Wright came to Iowa and located in West Liberty. Here he engaged in business with his brother as proprietor of a general store, with which he was connected for one year. He later sold his interest to his brother and bought a farm near West Liberty, which he improved and cultivated until his wife died in 1861. In that year Mr. Wright removed to Cedar Falls and accepted a position with the Wells Fargo Express Company as messenger. This was long before the days of railroads and Mr. Wright's duties consisted of driving a stage between Cedar Falls and Dubuque and between Cedar Falls and Sioux City. He held this position until 1868 when he

went in the railroad contracting business in partnership with a Mr. London. They were employed by the Illinois Central Railroad to grade their tracks in the vicinity of Fort Dodge. Mr. Wright's activities extended five miles east and five miles west of the city, and the thorough and capable work which he did won him high recognition. He lived in Webster county for some time and became prominent in county politics. He was elected sheriff of that county and served as marshal for a number of years. He was also identified with various other public positions and was one of the representative men of this district. He went to the Black Hills in South Dakota during the first days of the discovery of ore in that region and took up a claim there. He became well known as a publisher and editor. He operated and managed the leading journal in Rapid City and was later connected with the Deadwood Times for fifteen or twenty years. His health finally failed and after a period of invalidity he was stricken with pneumonia and died at Lead City, South Dakota, in November, 1882. Mr. Wright's activities in various fields of endeavor always met with a gratifying degree of success. He became well known and prominent wherever he lived and his death removed from the state of South Dakota one of the influential forces in its development.

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hepler were born four children: Grace W., who married C. H. Smith, a prominent politician of Fort Dodge and well known for his activities in the city council under the commission form of government; Anna W., the wife of James W. Leslie, of Seattle, Washington; Carl R., who is now managing the Magic and Princess theaters in Fort Dodge; and Fred Chase, who passed away in September, 1880.

Previous to her marriage with our subject Mrs. Hepler had been the wife of Andrew Jenkins, whom she married in August, 1868. He was prominent in the livery business in Fort Dodge at one time and was successful later as an employe of a Milwaukee bridge company, which was spanning the Rock Rapids with a modernly constructed bridge. When that work was completed they commissioned Mr. Jenkins to drive to Sibley, Iowa, for payment. The journey was twelve miles long and had to be made over unimproved roads and in the dead of winter. A terrible blizzard overtook the party and Mr. Jenkins was frozen to death. By her former marriage Mrs. Hepler became the mother of two children: Albert, who resides in Fort Dodge, where he

follows the trade of carpentering; and Markoe, who is an engineer for the Illinois Central Railroad with residence at Freeport, Illinois.

Although Mr. Hepler's business keeps him a great part of the time in Sioux Falls, he is a loyal citizen of Fort Dodge and maintains his residence in this city. He has erected a beautiful home at 1234 Sixth avenue, south, which is one of the most comfortable and commodious in the city. Mr. and Mrs. Hepler are well known in social circles and are among the prominent and popular residents of Fort Dodge. Mrs. Hepler is a charming and hospitable woman with a remarkable degree of culture and literary attainment. She is interested in history and is known as an authority upon the conditions of early pioneer settlement in the middle west.

Politically Mr. Hepler keeps himself independent of lines and parties. He is a firm believer in individual right of judgment and always votes for the man regardless of his affiliations. Mrs. Hepler is a member of the Society of Friends, which was the religion of her father and forefathers. Mr. Hepler does not affiliate with any particular form of belief. He molds his life according to principles of high-minded honor and integrity and is well known in Fort Dodge as a man of exemplary character. In all the lines of his activity he is well and favorably known by reason of his professional attainment and the high and intelligent quality of his citizenship.

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#### FRANCIS FRANKLIN LUTZ.

Francis F. Lutz follows the trade of tiling in Duncombe, Iowa, and also conducts a pool hall in that city. His career has come to final success after a long period of vicissitudes and the prosperity which he has attained is a credit to his native sagacity and industry. He was born in New York city, December 25, 1858, and was left an orphan when only four years of age, being too young to remember even the names of his parents. He was put in the Soldiers' Home in his native city and after a short time was adopted by George Gilmore, of Brownstown, Illinois, who for five years reared and educated his charge. At the end of that time Mr. Lutz was taken from his guardian by the Illinois courts on

account of the latter's cruelty. He then entered the home of Frank Steinhove, a farmer and brewer of Vandalia, Illinois, and here he remained for fourteen years. He was seized with yellow fever and was ordered to another climate, going eventually to the Black hills of South Dakota. Here he learned ditching and when he had fully recovered his health went to Clinton, Illinois, where he resided for eight years, following railroading the greater portion of the time. Subsequently in 1895, he came to Duncombe, where he worked at his trade of tiling, in which he has been successful in all for twenty-five years. In the last year he has laid eight hundred rods of tile upon the farms around Duncombe and expects to continue this business after the harvest of 1912. In 1905 he opened a pool hall in the city in which he resides and this he has since conducted successfully.

On January 10, 1886, Mr. Lutz was united in marriage to Miss Anna G. Brown, a daughter of Miles and Mary Etta Brown, natives of Harristown, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Lutz became the parents of fifteen children, of whom the following are deceased, Roy, Minnie Belle, Walter E., Lilly and Lincoln. Those who survive are, Arthur, Mary, Earl, Printhia, Bea, Libby, Anna Rose, Miles, Robert and Franklin.

In his political views Mr. Lutz is republican and has served as marshal of Duncombe for five years. He belongs to the Methodist church, and is a member of the local lodge of Modern Woodmen of America. He has a comfortable home in the city where he has resided for seventeen years, gaining the respect and esteem of his friends by reason of a life which has been made successful through his own efforts and by reason of straightforward principles which have been retained through unusual hardships.

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### THOMAS J. HALLIGAN.

Thomas J. Halligan, who is cashier of the Bank of Moorland, where he is also engaged in buying live stock, is one of the foremost citizens of Fulton township, where he holds the title to three hundred and thirty-seven acres of land. A member of one of Webster county's pioneer families, he was born in Elkhorn township, on the 28th of March, 1881. He is a son of Anthony and Anna (Trainor) Halligan, the former a native of Wiscon-

sin and the latter of Ireland. The father removed to Iowa about 1860 with his parents, who located in the vicinity of Dubuque, and there resided for many years. In 1872, he drove across the Iowa prairies to Webster county and began farming for himself as a renter. At the expiration of seven years he had accumulated sufficient money to enable him to buy land and he purchased a hundred and sixty acres in Elkhorn township. Here he continued his agricultural pursuits with more than an average degree of success, adding to his holdings as the years passed until he held title to five hundred acres. The further improvement and cultivation of his land engaged his attention until 1897, when he left the farm and came to Moorland. He here engaged in stock-buying for about five years, but at the end of that time moved on a farm in Fulton township, where he is now living retired. The mother is deceased, having passed away in 1881.

The son of an agriculturist and born on a farm, the boyhood and youth of Thomas J. Halligan were passed very much as those of other lads who are reared in rural districts. At the usual age he began his education in the district schools, continuing his course of study in Tobin College at Fort Dodge. After leaving school he returned home and together with his four brothers organized and established a private bank known as the Bank of Moorland. They all assist in the operation of the enterprise, which is one of the thriving financial institutions of the county. In connection with his duties as cashier Mr. Halligan engages in buying stock and directs the cultivation of his fine homestead. It comprises a hundred and seventy-seven acres of land and is located just outside the corporate limits of Moorland. He takes great pride in his farm, which is one of the best improved and most attractive properties in this vicinity. He also holds the title to a quarter section of land located four miles from Moorland, which he rents out. His time and energies have always been intelligently expended and despite the fact that he has not attained the age of thirty-two years, yet he is regarded as one of the foremost business men and most capable agriculturists in the township.

In October, 1906, Mr. Halligan was married to Miss Rose A. Byrne, a daughter of Michael W. and Anna (Andrews) Byrne, natives of Ireland. Three children were born of this marriage, as follows: Mary Fern, who is in her sixth year; Lawrence P., who is in his fifth year; and one, who died in infancy. Mrs.

Halligan passed away on the 10th of March, 1912, after a brief illness.

In matters of religious faith Mr. Halligan is a Roman Catholic and his wife was also a communicant of that church. In politics he is a democrat and stanchly supports the men and measures of that party. He has served as a member of the town council and at the present time is treasurer of both the town board and school board. Mr. Halligan takes an active interest in all local industries, particularly those affecting the agricultural sections and is one of the stockholders of the Cooperative Creamery Company of Des Moines. He is a young man of tireless energy, determination of purpose and laudable ambition, which commendable qualities are rapidly leading him on to the goal of achievement and will ultimately rank him high in the list of the county's representative citizens.

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#### CHRIS CHRISTENSEN.

Chris Christensen is manager of the Badger branch of the lumber business conducted by J. H. Queal & Company, having risen to this responsible position in a short time by hard work, energy and persistent attention to the interests of his employers. Since 1911 he has operated a restaurant in the same city and is meeting with his usual success in this field of activity. He was born in Denmark, January 8, 1876, and is a son of Lars and Johanna (Jensen) Christensen. The father was a stonecutter and worked at his trade in Denmark, where his death occurred in May, 1908. His wife is still living in her native land.

Chris Christensen was reared at home and was educated in the public schools of Denmark. At the age of sixteen he emigrated to America, locating in Ringstead, Iowa, in 1892. He obtained employment as a farm hand and gained his livelihood by this work for several years. He was thrifty and ambitious and saved his money so that he was soon able to rent a farm near Ringsted, which he operated and improved for two years. He then moved into the village and became engaged in the draying business which after a year he abandoned in order to work in a lumberyard in a humble position. After four months' service in this capacity his employers sent him to Lone Rock in order

to take charge of a yard operated by J. H. Queal & Company. Here he did such efficient and practical work that after four years he was transferred to Badger, where he has since been general manager of the branch house. In 1911 Mr. Christensen added to his activities by starting a restaurant which he still conducts.

On March 16, 1898, Chris Christensen was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jepson, a daughter of Nels and Anna C. Nissen Jepson, natives of Denmark. To Mr. and Mrs. Christensen have been born three children, Thora, Albert and Clarence, aged respectively twelve, ten and five years.

Mr. Christensen owns the building in which he conducts his business and the property on which it stands and is one of the progressive and enterprising citizens of Badger. He belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men and to the Modern Woodmen of America, affiliating also with the Danish Brotherhood. He is a believer in the Lutheran religion. In his political views he is a consistent republican and has served as town clerk for several years and also did able work as school director. He is one of the promising young business men of Badger, active in promoting his own success but at the same time mindful of his obligations as a citizen. He has made the two business enterprises with which he is connected successful by always seizing any favorable opportunity for expansion and by adhering faithfully to high standards of personal and commercial honor.

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#### L. VERNE MILLER.

L. Verne Miller, assistant cashier of the Savings Bank at Duncombe, is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Hamilton county on the 18th of August, 1882. His parents are John and Amelia (Woodward) Miller, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of the state of New York. John Miller was only a boy when he located in Hamilton county with his parents. There he was reared to manhood and when old enough to begin working, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and by reason of his diligence and thrift subsequently acquired a farm of his own. The cultivation and improvement of his land engaged his undi-

vided attention until 1910, when he retired to Webster City, where he and his wife are still residing.

The first twenty years in the life of L. Verne Miller were passed under the parental roof, his time being largely devoted to the acquirement of an education. Upon terminating his school days he engaged in teaching, being identified with this profession for six years. He next accepted a position as relief clerk in the postoffice at Webster City, following which he became cashier for the Illinois Central Railroad Company. He served in the latter capacity until May 2, 1911, when he resigned to accept the position of bookkeeper in the Duncombe Savings Bank. In the fall of the same year he was promoted to the office of assistant cashier, his services in this connection having proven to be highly acceptable. Mr. Miller is a young man of genial disposition and accommodating manner and by reason of his unfailing courtesy has become very popular with the patrons of the bank.

Fraternally he is affiliated with Elmo Lodge, No. 63, I. O. O. F., of Webster City. He takes an active interest in local politics, giving his support to the republican party and is treasurer of the school board. General efficiency, fidelity to duty and unquestionable integrity are the most striking characteristics of this young man, who enjoys the esteem and respect of a large circle of Duncombe's citizens.

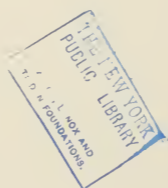
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#### ARTHUR L. RICHARDS.

Arthur L. Richards has been a resident of Vincent since 1892 and has been engaged in various important business enterprises in the village since that time. He is one of the well known, progressive and enterprising business men of the section and his activities which are always of a constructive kind, have been factors in local development. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1854, a son of Edwin C. and Thilena (Shaw) Richards, natives of Massachusetts. His father was a musician and followed this line of occupation for almost forty years. When he came to Iowa he located in Chapin, Franklin county, in 1875, and there taught a large music class. He also purchased land and operated his farm until his death, which occurred in 1886. His wife passed away in 1883.



MRS. ADDA J. RICHARDS



Arthur L. Richards was reared and educated in Ohio. When he laid aside his books at the age of sixteen he came to Iowa with his parents and after a short time began farming, cultivating the soil until he was twenty-five years of age. Subsequently, in 1892, he came to Vincent and in partnership with Anderson Brothers bought an elevator, of which he had charge for a number of years. He has recently been engaged in handling stock and makes frequent trips to Canada to buy high-grade animals. He gives his allegiance to the republican party and for eleven years was postmaster of Vincent.

On August 22, 1872, Mr. Richards was united in marriage to Miss Ada J. Riddle, a daughter of T. C. and Sarah (Colt) Riddle, the former a native of New York and the latter of Niagara Falls. Her mother was born on the farm, upon which one end of the suspension bridge over the Niagara river was afterward built. For some time her father operated a small boat on the Erie canal and continued in this line of activity until 1857, when he came with his family to Iowa and located at Grinnell. From there he went to Franklin county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he improved and developed until his death on February 24, 1876. His wife is still living in the eighty-sixth year of her age and makes her home with the subject of this review. Mr. and Mrs. Richards have four children: Edwin C., who is engaged as a tinner and plumber at Waverly, and who married Miss Maude Burbank; Sarah L., the wife of John Arnold, a real-estate dealer in Fort Meade, Florida; Alberta M., who married Frank Arnold, agent for the Chicago & Great Western Railroad at Thornton; and Clarence A., who is attending the Fort Dodge business college, and who is also assistant postmaster of Vincent. Mrs. Richards is one of the prominent and well known women of the village in which she resides and is not only an exemplary wife and mother but a remarkably able business woman. She is a stockholder in the Vincent Savings Bank and in the Vincent Telephone Company and also for some years assisted her husband in the operation of a hotel barbershop and livery business. On August 22, 1911, she was appointed postmistress of Vincent and has since served in that capacity, discharging her duties ably and conscientiously.

Mr. Richards is well known in local fraternal circles, holding membership in the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic order, while his wife holds membership in the Order of the Eastern Star. He served for eleven years as postmaster and was also the town marshal for several years. He and

his family belong to the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Richards own much valuable property in Vincent, including several fine business lots and the postoffice building. They have also a three hundred acre farm in Canada and are interested in various local enterprises, all of which are important and remunerative. They are among the most prominent and highly respected citizens of Vincent, where both are well known in business and social circles. In spirit and interests they are representative of the highest standards and their lives and activities have been useful and valuable in various directions.

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### CHARLES VICTOR LUNDBERG.

Charles Victor Lundberg is a worthy representative of the mercantile interests of Dayton, where he has won the success that invariably rewards honorable business methods when followed with diligence and perseverance. He was born in Andover, Henry county, Illinois, on the 4th of December, 1860, and is a son of Jonas P. and Johanna Matilda (Price) Lundberg. The parents were both natives of Sweden, and there they were married. When Jonas P. Lundberg was a little lad of five years his mother died and he was reared by his grandmother until he was deemed old enough to learn a trade. At the age of eight he entered the service of a local tailor, with whom he remained until he was grown. After the expiration of his period of service he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and went to work for a farmer at eighteen dollars per year and his clothing. In accordance with the requirements of the country two years of his early manhood were spent in the Swedish army, following which he again engaged in farming. The hard work and meager wages and apparent hopelessness of advancement, served to make him most discontented with his lot and in 1852 he emigrated with wife and family to the United States. Upon his arrival in this country he located at Andover, Illinois, where for some years thereafter he worked as a laborer. By reason of thrift he accumulated sufficient means to enable him to engage in farming, and he then rented a place which he operated until 1875. In the spring of that year he came to Webster county, and rented a farm in Dayton township. The next year he removed to Grant township, Boone county, and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of

land, which he cultivated during the remainder of his active life. There he passed away on March 12, 1894, at the age of seventy-seven, his natal year having been 1817. The mother is still living and continues to make her home on the old farm in Boone county. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Lundberg numbered thirteen, as follows: John A. and Jonas A., both deceased; Charles Victor, our subject; Gustaf L., a farmer of Clay township, this county; Andrew W., deceased; Frank O., who is farming in Cooper township, Webster county; Christine S., the wife of Gus Hemstrom, a farmer of Bertrand, Nebraska; Peter O. and Hannah, both deceased; Theodore L., who is a farmer of Grant township; Edwin, who is a resident of Riverside, California; Emily, who is at home with her mother; and Gilbert, who died in infancy. The family always attended the Swedish Lutheran church, of which the father was a member while the mother is still affiliated with this organization.

The first fifteen years in the life of Charles Victor Lundberg were passed in his native state, to whose district schools he is indebted for his education. After laying aside his text-books he assisted his father with the work of the farm until he was nineteen, when he started out to earn his own living. He returned to Illinois, where he worked as a farm hand for a year, and then came back to Dayton and entered the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad as a construction hand. During the succeeding two years he followed the carpenter's trade in Dayton, but at the expiration of that period he accepted a position as clerk in the store of John Lundeen for two and one-half years.

In 1886 he entered upon a clerkship with Samuel Burnquist, Sr. Mr. Lundberg continued to retain his position until the death of Mr. Burnquist in 1895. He then became associated with J. A. Burnquist, a brother of his former employer, and together they purchased the stock from the heirs. Five years later, Mr. Burnquist sold his interest in the business to his nephew, Samuel Burnquist, Jr., who is still in partnership with Mr. Lundberg. Their establishment is one of the oldest and most successful commercial enterprises in the town, and is favored with an excellent patronage. The store is operated under the name of Burnquist & Lundberg and is conducted in accordance with a policy that has won them the confidence of the entire community. They carry a large and varied assortment of general merchandise, which they offer at reasonable prices, and as their goods are always

found to be exactly as represented they are enjoying a gratifying trade. Mr. Lundberg has prospered in his undertakings and in addition to his interest in the store is a large stockholder in the First National Bank of Dayton, of which he is president.

Mr. Lundberg was married on the 18th of October, 1893, to Miss Emma M. Peterson, a daughter of Nels and Christine Peterson, natives of Sweden. The father emigrated to the United States in his early manhood and located in Henry county, Illinois, and there for several years he farmed as a renter. Later he came to Iowa, purchasing eighty acres of land in Webster county, and as his circumstances warranted he increased his holdings until they aggregated four hundred acres. For many years he industriously applied himself to the further improvement and cultivation of his land until he abandoned active farm work and removed to Dayton, where he passed away in November, 1906. Mr. Peterson was married twice, his second union being with Mrs. Caroline Linderholm of Dayton. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lundberg, as follows: Byron Irwin, who graduated from the Dayton high school with the class of 1911, living at home; Frances Irene, who is attending high school; and Esta Mildred, who is going to the kindergarten.

The political support of Mr. Lundberg is accorded to the republican party. He represented his ward in the town council for six years and since September, 1903, has been treasurer of the local school board. He is one of the influential and prominent citizens of the town, where his long and successful connection with the various business interests has proven him to be a man of marked capability. His career has not been distinguished by any extraordinary or spectacular achievements but it has been characterized by steady progress and substantial development, giving assurance of permanence and stability.

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#### THOMAS K. PETERSON.

Thomas K. Peterson is a native of Norway but has been in America since he was eight years of age. He was a boy of fourteen when he came to Badger township, where he is now numbered among the well known and representative citizens. During the period of his residence here he has been identified with various busi-

ness enterprises and has held his present position as cashier of the Badger Savings Bank since 1894, proving himself during that time an able and systematic financier and an honest, upright and straightforward man. Mr. Peterson was born in Norway, August 6, 1868, and is a son of Knud and Christina (Ostius) Peterson, natives of that country. The father farmed in Norway until 1876, when he came to the United States, settling in Champaign county, Illinois, where he purchased land. He bought eighty acres and moved upon his property, which he improved and operated until the spring of 1882, when he disposed of his farm and came to Webster county, Iowa, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Badger township. This land is now included in the corporation limits of the town of Badger and upon it the father of our subject carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in March, 1892. His wife survived him until November, 1898.

Thomas Peterson was eight years of age when he came to America with his parents. He completed an education begun in Norway in the public schools of Champaign county, Illinois, and in Badger township, Webster county, finishing his studies at Highland Park College in Des Moines. When he had completed his course he returned to Badger and accepted a position as clerk in a general store belonging to H. P. Hanson and after a year's activity in this capacity purchased a half-interest in the enterprise. For two years he continued this identification, after which he accepted his present position as cashier in the Badger Savings Bank. In that capacity he has acted with increasing success since 1894 and he is also a stockholder and director in the institution. The bank is the only one in the village of Badger. It was organized on June 8, 1889, under the name of the Bank of Badger, which title was later changed to the State Bank of Badger. In 1894 it was reorganized under the name of the Badger Savings Bank with a capital stock of ten thousand dollars, which in 1911 was increased to twenty-five thousand dollars. Its officers at the present time are: C. W. Maher, president; C. Knudson, vice president; and T. K. Peterson, cashier. Mr. Peterson has been a valuable addition to the institution with which he is connected, for he understands banking thoroughly, is careful and conservative but at the same time progressive, and his individual success has been a factor in the prosperity of the bank.

In June, 1898, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Adeline Knudson, a daughter of Christopher and Anna (Arent)

Knudson, natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have four children, Kenneth C., Clara A., Gladys P., and Lloyd O., aged respectively twelve, eleven, nine and six years.

In his political affiliations Mr. Peterson is a firm republican and has been active in local affairs since he took up his residence in Badger. He was the first mayor of the village, in which capacity he is now serving, and for years filled the office of secretary of the school board, being at the present time treasurer of that organization. He belongs to the Lutheran church. That he has been successful in business and judicious in his investments is evidenced by the fact that he now owns his father's home place of one hundred and sixty acres on section 15, Badger township, and a fine dwelling in the village, surrounded by twelve acres of land. He is also the proprietor of two hundred and forty acres in Clay township and is managing his affairs and promoting his success by reason of his qualities of energy, diligence and honesty, characteristics which the United States welcomes so eagerly in its adopted citizens.

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### JOHN HANRAHAN.

John Hanrahan, who has been identified with various business interests in Clare and Webster counties and other points, was born in Ireland, in December, 1850. He is a son of John and Bridget (Morgan) Hanrahan, also natives of the Emerald isle. The family emigrated to the United States in 1864, first locating in Pennsylvania. From there they removed to Dubuque, Iowa, and after five or six years residence in the latter place came to Webster county. Here the father made his home with his children until his death, which occurred in 1895. The mother passed away in 1884.

John Hanrahan, who was a youth of fourteen years when he accompanied his parents to America, obtained his education in his native land. After the family located in Dubuque he went to work on the railroad, but was later employed on a steamer on the Mississippi. Together with a brother he subsequently engaged in railroad contracting for five years, meeting with a good measure of success. He and his brothers next purchased four hundred and forty acres of land in Jackson township, this county, and turned their attention to agricultural pursuits. This

farm is now one of the valuable properties of Webster county and is in the possession of the family of one of the Hanrahan brothers. After nine years of cooperative farming, Mr. Hanrahan disposed of his interest in the place and coming to Clare went into the hotel business. He followed this occupation for seven years, and then engaged in the saloon business. The latter enterprise engaged his attention for fifteen years, at the expiration of which time he sold out and opened a pool room. He is still conducting the latter place and in connection with it sells soft drinks and also handles cigars. Mr. Hanrahan has acquired extensive realty interests, owning farms in South Dakota, Canada and Texas, and also his business property, a fine residence and several residence lots in Clare.

In April, 1883, Mr. Hanrahan was married to Miss Mary Morgan, a daughter of Patrick and Mary (McNamara) Morgan, natives of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Hanrahan have five children: Morgan J., who is a practicing attorney of Winnipeg, Canada; Odessa M., a stenographer in Des Moines; Leo M. and Charlotte M., who are at home; and James, who passed away in 1902.

The family are communicants of the Roman Catholic church, and fraternally Mr. Hanrahan is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus of Fort Dodge. He is a democrat in politics and under Cleveland's administration served for four years as postmaster. He has served on the town council and has also discharged the duties of assessor in Jackson township, and has filled the office of town clerk. Mr. Hanrahan is a genial man of generous impulses and has many friends in Clare and the surrounding country where he is widely known.

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### WILLIAM OLIVER FORSBERG.

William Oliver Forsberg, who owns and operates one of the finest threshing outfits in Webster county, has passed the greater part of his life in Dayton township, where he is now residing. He was born in Sweden on the 4th of January, 1875, and is a son of Peter and Martha (Erickson) Forsberg. The parents were born, reared and married in Sweden, the father's natal day being in 1846 and that of the mother in 1833. Peter Forsberg, who was

a carpenter, emigrated to the United States with his family in 1880, locating in Dayton. Here he established a shop and continued to follow his trade for four years. In the spring of 1884, he removed to Bassett, Rock county, Nebraska, and homesteaded a hundred and sixty acres of land. He did not survive long thereafter, his death occurring in the autumn of 1884. The mother with her family remained on the farm for eight years. At the expiration of that time she rented her place and returned to Dayton, where she still resides.

As he was only a child of five years when he emigrated to the United States with his parents, William Oliver Forsberg has but little recollection of the land of his birth. At the usual age he entered the public schools of Dayton, which he attended until the family removed to Nebraska. There he continued his studies during the winter months and assisted with the work of the farm during the summer until he was seventeen. In 1892 he returned to Webster county with his mother, who located in Dayton. During the succeeding five years he worked out as a farm hand and followed such other pursuits as enabled him to earn an honest living. He was enterprising and thrifty and during that time he managed to save enough from his earnings to enable him to purchase a half interest in a threshing outfit. Three years later he bought his partner's interest in the business and has ever since been alone. As he is a capable man, and thoroughly dependable and trustworthy, he has built up a very good business, and now operates one of the most completely equipped outfits in the county.

Mr. Forsberg was united in marriage to Miss Louise Eklund, a daughter of Gustavus A. and Josephine Eklund and a native of Sweden. The parents were also natives of Sweden, the father's birth occurring in 1853, and there they were married. They emigrated to the United States in 1882, settling on a farm west of Dayton in Dayton township. There the mother passed away and the father subsequently went to northwestern Iowa, locating in Palo Alto county, where he farmed as a renter for six years, and then bought eighty acres of excellent land. He has ever since devoted his energies to the further improvement and cultivation of this place and now owns a valuable and attractive farm. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Forsberg, as follows: Wilmer, Milchen, Melvin, Gladys and Chester.

Mr. Forsberg is a member of Dayton Camp, M. W. A., and votes the republican ticket. He is one of the progressive citizens of Dayton township, where his diligence and energetic methods and his reliability in matters of business fully entitle him to the respect and esteem of his community.

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### SVEND P. SWANSON.

Svend P. Swanson, who engages in general farming and stock-raising on an eighty acre tract of land located on section 9 of Dayton township, was born in Northern Gilland, Denmark, on the 16th of September, 1858. He is a son of Peter and Magdaline (Christensen) Swanson, likewise natives of Denmark, where for many years the father engaged in farming. He is still living on the old home place, but the mother passed away in 1911. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Swanson numbered twelve, as follows: Annie, who is at home with her father in Denmark; Kristen, the wife of Tom Larson, a farmer in Virginia; Hannah, deceased; Christina, the widow of Peter Morris, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Svend P., our subject; Andrew, who is a resident of Missouri Valley, Iowa; Minnie, who married H. P. Johnson, a farmer of Kearney county, Nebraska; Lawrence, a farmer of Harrison county, Iowa; Trena, who married James Morris, a merchant and the postmaster in Stork, Minnesota; Knute, who died in the Danish army; and two children, who died in infancy.

Svend P. Swanson was reared on the farm where he was born and educated in the schools of the vicinity. He assisted his father in tilling the fields and caring for the crops until he was twenty-two years of age, when he decided that the future held but little promise for him in his native land and resolved to come to America. He had several sisters living in the United States, so in 1880 he took passage for this country, with Council Bluffs, Iowa, as his destination. Soon after his arrival there he obtained work on a farm, where he was employed for four years. At the expiration of that time he returned to Council Bluffs and worked in a restaurant for two years. He was next employed as a coachman, but he gave this up five years later and went to Washington. He followed various pursuits there for two years, then returned to Council Bluffs and worked for a year. In 1894 he went to

Harrison county, Iowa, and purchased a farm comprising eighty acres and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He met with very good success in the cultivation of his land, but he rented his place in 1898 and came to Webster county, Iowa. Here he subsequently bought his present place on section 9 of Dayton township. This also consists of eighty acres, all of which is under cultivation and in a high state of productivity. Mr. Swanson is a very enterprising man of progressive methods as is manifested by the well kept appearance of his farm and the excellent condition of his stock. He uses good judgment in the direction of his activities and gives his personal supervision to every detail connected with the operation of his farm, and as a result there is a general air of thrift and prosperity about the place that suggests capable and efficient management. As his circumstances have warranted he has improved his farm and in 1911, he erected an attractive and comfortable residence and a large, substantial barn, both equipped with all modern appointments. He is the owner of one of the most valuable properties in the community and is numbered among the prosperous and substantial citizens of Dayton township.

On the 24th of May, 1894, Mr. Swanson was united in marriage to Miss Emma Swansen, the event being celebrated at Logan, Iowa. She is a daughter of Johan Peter and Marie (Munson) Swansen. The father is deceased but the mother makes her home in Dayton. Mr. Swansen was born at Hvetlanda Parish, Sweden, September 11, 1828, and there he was married in the fall of 1854 to Miss Munson. It was his desire to become a citizen of the United States and on the 14th of September, 1868, together with his eldest son he took passage for the United States. He worked diligently during the succeeding two years, and in 1870 sent for the other members of his family. Upon their arrival he located at Altona, Illinois, where he resided until 1882, when he removed to Dayton township, and engaged in farming. In 1898, he retired to Dayton and there he passed away on the 14th of April, 1900. Mrs. Swanson, who was a child of seven years when she emigrated to the United States with her mother, was the fifth in a family of eight children, born to her parents, the others being as follows: Sophia and Christina, both of whom are deceased; Johan, who is a resident of California; Caroline, who is deceased; Marie, of Dayton; William T., who is living on the old homestead in Dayton township; and Charles

F., also deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have one child, Florence, whose birth occurred on the 31st of March, 1895. She has been a student in the public schools of Dayton for the past eight years and graduated from the high school in June, 1912.

Fraternally, Mr. Swanson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and his political support he gives to such men and measures as he deems best qualified to subserve the highest interests of the community. He is now serving his tenth year as school director. Mr. Swanson has led a quiet, unobtrusive life, but his untiring diligence and his faithful discharge of all the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, as well as the integrity and high principles he has manifested in his business transactions, has won him the respect and esteem of his entire community.

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#### ALVIN EMERSON TENNANT.

Alvin Emerson Tennant, who has been a resident of Fort Dodge for more than a third of a century, lives at No. 1220 Central avenue and has been in the service of the Oleson Drug Company as bookkeeper for about twenty-six years. His birth occurred in New Milford, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, on the 29th of March, 1840, his parents being William W. and Phoebe (Lewis) Tennant. The father was born in Rhode Island on the 24th of January, 1804, while the mother's birth occurred in Hartford, Connecticut, on the 24th of June, 1808. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Tennant, the paternal grandparents of our subject, lived to a ripe old age. Their children included Oliver, William, Abigail, Merrily, Nancy and Frances. The maternal grandfather was a sea captain and met his death while at sea in early manhood. His wife, Mrs. Mary Lewis, passed away in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania. Their children included Thurston, Lebeaus, Robinson, Joseph, Phoebe, Sallie and Mary.

William W. Tennant, the father of Alvin E. Tennant, was a farmer by occupation. In early manhood he went to Pennsylvania, purchased two hundred and sixty acres of timber land in Susquehanna county, cleared and improved the property and reared his family thereon. In 1867 he and his wife came to Webster county, Iowa, and here they spent the remainder of their

lives, passing away in Burnside township. Mr. Tennant died on the 22d of September, 1879, when more than seventy-five years old, and his wife was called to her final rest in 1883 at the age of seventy-five. Both were devoted members of the Baptist church. To them were born seven sons, as follows: Orange W. and George W., both of whom are deceased; John W., a resident of Webster county, Iowa; Lewis W., living in New Milford, Pennsylvania; Alvin Emerson, of this review; William Riley, of Fort Dodge; and Austin D.

Alvin Emerson Tennant was reared on his father's farm in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, and there attended the common schools in the acquirement of an education. In 1860 he removed westward to Lee county, Illinois, and there was engaged as a farm hand for one year, on the expiration of which period he worked on the Mississippi river. In the fall of 1863 he returned to Illinois and enlisted for service in the Union army of the Civil war, becoming a member of Company C, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, and remaining at the front to the time of the cessation of hostilities. He enlisted as a private and was detailed as a clerk under Colonel Flint at General Palmer's headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, where he was honorably discharged. After the close of the war he returned to Illinois and followed farming in Lee county until 1867, when he came to Iowa, settling near Burnside. He afterward spent three years in Nebraska but since 1878 he has made his home in Fort Dodge. He has been connected with the Oleson Drug Company in the capacity of book-keeper for about twenty-six years. His long retention in the employ of this firm is unmistakable evidence of his ability, fidelity and trustworthiness. He formerly was in the service of the Fort Dodge National Bank for several years.

As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life Mr. Tennant chose Miss Eva M. Tripp, who was born at Amboy, Illinois, on the 11th of September, 1850, her parents being Ralph O. and Satirah (Powell) Tripp, natives of New York and Toronto, Canada, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. David Tripp, the paternal grandparents of Mrs. Tennant, had the following children: Ralph, David, Hannah, Lorette, Philasia and Laura. Her maternal grandparents, William and Catharine Ann Powell, lived to reach the ages of sixty-five and ninety-eight years respectively. Their children were five in number, Satirah, James, Mary, Eliza and Maria. Ralph O. Tripp was taken to Illinois when but four

years of age, and his wife was a maiden of fourteen years when she took up her abode in that state. They came to Iowa about 1868. Ralph O. Tripp was a farmer by occupation and during the period of the Civil war served as a private in an Illinois regiment for nearly two years, being mustered out at the close of hostilities. His demise occurred at Liscomb, Iowa, in 1898, when he had attained the age of sixty-six years, while his wife was called to her final rest in 1884 at the age of forty-eight years. Mrs. Tennant, who is their only child, is the mother of six children, Inez M., Blanche M., Alvin Earl, Vera, Marie and Ralph.

Alvin Emerson Tennant gives his political allegiance to the republican party and fraternally is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He retains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Fort Donelson Post, G. A. R. Mr. and Mrs. Tennant and five of their children are members of the Christian church. The parents have a host of warm friends throughout the community and justly merit the regard and esteem which is uniformly accorded them.

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#### ALBERT EDWARD ACHER, M. D.

Dr. Acher is one of the thoroughly prepared and successful physicians of Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he has been engaged in the general practice of his profession since January 1, 1907. He was born near Napoleon, Indiana, November 23, 1878, and is a son of John and Martha Magdalene (Flick) Acher. The father was a native of Prussia, Germany, and emigrated to America in 1859, settling first in Minnesota, where he was engaged in farming. At the opening of the Civil war he answered the call of his adopted country to defend the flag of the Union and enlisted in the Minnesota volunteer infantry for the entire period of the war. At the close of that great civil conflict he was honorably discharged and returned to his home in Minnesota, from which he later moved to Napoleon, Indiana, where he purchased land located near that city and on that property followed farming until the close of his life, which occurred in 1886. His widow remained with her children on the farm until 1892, when she established her residence in Napoleon, where she now resides.

Dr. Acher was reared at home and received his early education in the public schools of the district in which he lived, and was graduated from the Napoleon high school with the class of 1894. During his years as a student in the public schools he prepared himself for teaching and for three years was engaged in that work in Webster county in the district near his home. Industrious and economical in his habits, he was able to save a sufficient sum with which to pursue for one year a literary course in the State University of Indiana and later he took up the study of medicine in the medical department of that university, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. (regular) in the class of 1905. Immediately following his graduation he served for one year as interne in the Deaconess Hospital in Indianapolis. He then made his first location as a practicing physician at Nora, not far from Indianapolis, where he remained for six months, after which he came to Fort Dodge, Iowa. On January 1, 1907, he opened an office in the Reynolds block on Central avenue and there engaged in the general practice of his profession. When the new First National Bank building was completed he removed his offices to more suitable rooms which he found located at Nos. 511 and 512 in that building, at which place he has since remained. The offices contain every convenience suited to the practice of his profession, having a well appointed reception room which is jointly used by the subject of this review and Dr. W. R. Bates. In the practice of medicine at Fort Dodge, Dr. Acher has met with well merited success and has already taken a prominent place among his brother practitioners in the field.

In June, 1906, Dr. Acher was united in marriage to Miss Marna Pierson, a daughter of John C. and Martha J. (Fowler) Pierson, the former of German descent and a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter a native of Ohio. The father was engaged in the contracting and building business and for many years was one of the best known contractors of Indianapolis. In that city he has erected some of the largest business blocks and many of the buildings which now help to adorn and make beautiful the capital city of Indiana. He was also the builder of the famous Tom Taggart Hotel at French Lick, Indiana. His death occurred in Indianapolis in May, 1910, and his widow still maintains her residence in that city. To Dr. and Mrs. Acher three children were born: John Chandler, born May 19, 1907; Martha Jane,

who was born February 1, 1909, and died May 23, 1910; and Chiron Chester, born January 9, 1912.

Dr. Acher is a member of the Webster County Medical Society, of which he is serving his first term as president, and also belongs to the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He is affiliated with the democratic party, and fraternally is a member of Ashlar Lodge, No. 111, F. & A. M., of Fort Dodge. He also belongs to the Fort Dodge Lodge, No. 248, A. O. U. W., also the lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose, and is a member of the Sons of Herman. Dr. Acher is already recognized as one of the successful physicians of Fort Dodge and he has long since gained the respect of the citizens of that place and is looked upon as one of the reliable and desirable members of the community in which he lives. The home of Dr. and Mrs. Acher is located at No. 708 North Sixteenth street and here their many friends are always assured of a cordial greeting.

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#### E. T. DAVIDSON.

E. T. Davidson, who has been the incumbent of the office of postmaster in Duncombe for the past three years, was born in Hamilton county, this state, on the 29th of April, 1877. He is a son of Thomas and Isabelle Davidson, natives of Norway. The father came to the United States in 1866, first locating in Illinois, where he worked out by the month as a farm hand for five years. At the end of that time he continued his journey westward to Iowa, settling in Hamilton county. After engaging in farming there as a renter for several years, he removed with his family to Webster county and here he has ever since lived. Shortly after his arrival he bought eighty acres of land in Colfax township, diligently applying himself to its further improvement and cultivation until 1909. In the latter year he disposed of his farm and he and the mother removed to Duncombe.

E. T. Davidson was reared in his native county and educated in the common schools. As usual with lads living in the country he was early trained to agricultural pursuits, remaining at home and assisting his father with the operation of the home place until it was sold. More and more of the responsibility con-

nected with its cultivation devolved upon him until several years before coming to town he had entire charge of the property. Soon after they located in Duncombe he was appointed postmaster and is still serving in that capacity, having proven to be a competent and efficient man for the office.

In October, 1904, Mr. Davidson was married to Miss Jessie Nelson, a daughter of N. J. and Mary Nelson and to them have been born two children: Mae, who is six years of age; and Curtis, who has passed the second anniversary of his birth. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Davidson votes the republican ticket, and has served as clerk of Colfax township, while residing there, and is now secretary of the school board. He owns his residence and is one of the stockholders and vice president of the Farmers Savings Bank of Duncombe, one of the well established and thriving financial institutions of the county. Mr. Davidson is well liked by the citizens of the community generally, as he is gracious and accommodating and satisfactorily meets the many demands on his office.

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### EDWARD KENDALL.

Edward Kendall, who is living retired in Badger, has been for many years prominently connected with the agricultural and business development of the section in which he resides and is an honored veteran of the Civil war. He has been enterprising, straightforward and honorable in all relations of his life and deserves the rest which he is enjoying because he has earned it by diligent and long-continued labor. He was born in Ashby, Massachusetts, April 19, 1841, and is a son of John E. and Laura A. (Kendall) Kendall, natives of that state. The father was a carpenter by trade and spent his entire life engaged in that occupation in Massachusetts. He died in Ashby in 1903, having long survived his wife, who passed away in 1841.

Edward Kendall pursued his studies in the public schools of his native city, continuing his education there until he was nine years of age. At that time he left home in order to live with an uncle in Peru, Illinois, where he resumed his lessons. In 1856 our subject's Uncle Bradford Kendall moved to Otho township



EDWARD KENDALL



—buying a quarter of a section and lived there three years. The uncle then returned to Peru, but our subject remained and worked as a farm hand. At Fort Dodge on August 20, 1861, Edward Kendall enlisted in Company A., Eleventh Volunteer Cavalry, and served for three years and two months, taking part in various important engagements. He was shot in the right leg at South Anna Bridge, eight miles from Richmond, Virginia, and so seriously disabled that he is troubled by his wound at the present time. On October 20, 1864, he received his discharge and returned to Iowa and worked as a fireman on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad for a year, going at the end of that time to Fort Dodge, where he drove a stage for some time. He later obtained employment by the month as a farm laborer, being active in this capacity for several years before he was able to rent land. This he eventually did and followed farming in this way for two years. At the end of that time he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Newark township and began its cultivation. He farmed along the most progressive and systematic lines, improving his property to the best of his ability, erecting new buildings and installing modern machinery. He remained upon this tract of land until 1890, when he sold his holdings and moved to Badger, where he engaged in the buying and selling of horses. After eleven years of activity along this line he retired but still makes his home in Badger, where he owns a comfortable and attractive residence and has many acquaintances and friends.

Mr. Kendall has been twice married. In 1873 he wedded Miss Clara Kitchen and they became the parents of one child, Myrtle, who was burned to death in Chicago in September, 1907, the accident being caused by the explosion of a gasoline stove. Mr. Kendall's first wife passed away in 1878 and on December 4, 1882, he was united in marriage to Miss Lucretia Roy, a daughter of Robert and Mary (Rudman) Roy, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Indiana. The father was a shoemaker by trade and came to this country when he was twenty-one years of age, settling in Indiana and later in Iowa, where he followed his chosen occupation at Algona. Subsequently he moved to Livermore and after many years' residence in that city finally established himself in Rolfe, where he died in 1897, having survived his wife by ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Kendall have four children: Laura, who married Clarence Thompson, a farmer

of Badger township; and Frank E., Edna G. and Verne D., all of whom are living at home.

Mr. Kendall is a republican in his political beliefs and has served with ability and conscientiousness as a member of the village council. He was assessor of Newark township for some time and also acted as school director. He is an adherent of the Presbyterian church and a member of Fort Donelson Post, G. A. R., being numbered among the worthy and honored veterans of the war of the Rebellion.

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### WILLIAM BARROWMAN.

William Barrowman is one of the well known merchants of Lehigh, Iowa, of which city he has been a resident since 1881. He was born near Glasgow, Scotland, June 4, 1841, and in his native land received his early education. He emigrated to America in 1869 and settled first in Henry county, Illinois, where he took up work as foreman of a coal mine. He later removed to Lehigh, Iowa, and at once engaged in coal mining with the Crooked Creek Coal Company. Afterward he owned and operated a coal mine of his own for a time and later leased a mine from the Crooked Creek Coal Company. He subsequently retired from mining and established himself in the restaurant business, where the town hall now stands, in Lehigh. He remained in that location in business until the time of the great fire at Lehigh, which destroyed all of the business houses in that part of the town, and he then removed to the west side of the town and located at a point half way up West Hill and there conducted a restaurant until he had completed a new brick building on the site of his original location. In the new building he opened a general mercantile store, to which he gave his attention for two years, after which time he sold the building to the town for the purpose of a town hall. He then purchased his present store, which is located on the summit of the West Side Hill, opposite the new high school building. The property was formerly known as Silas Smith's old store. In that property the subject of this review has since successfully conducted a general merchandising establishment.

Mr. Barrowman was first married in Scotland to Miss Christiana White, and they were the parents of thirteen children, seven of whom are living, Christiana, Jane, Margaret, William, David, Robert and Charley. The mother of this family died at the age of forty-five years and was buried in Otho cemetery. The father was later married to Mrs. Constance (Bennett) Retallick, who was the widow of John Retallick and a daughter of John and Constance (Dunstan) Bennett, who were natives of England. Mrs. Barrowman by her first husband is the mother of one child, John C. Retallick, and to Mr. and Mrs. Barrowman one child has been born, Hypatia Barrowman. Mr. Barrowman has served as mayor of Lehigh for several terms but for the past twenty-five years he has been at heart a socialist and not interested in present political issues as advocated by the old political parties. He was one of the early pioneers of Lehigh, having settled in that town at a time when the entire mercantile business was conducted from three small stores, one of which was located on the east side and two on the west side of the river, and the bridge to connect the two parts of the town had just been completed. Since his residence in Lehigh he has always enjoyed the good-will and esteem of his fellow citizens and is a man who has always identified himself with every public measure intended to advance the business and educational interests of the city in which he lives.

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#### A. M. DAWLEY.

A. M. Dawley was the builder of the first frame house in Fort Dodge and with the history of the city in its upbuilding and development he was closely associated as the years passed on. He saw the possibilities here and utilized them not only for his own benefit but for the welfare of the community at large, and his name is, therefore, inseparably interwoven with the records of Webster county. He was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, March 10, 1830, and was one of a family of three sons and a daughter, whose parents were Thomas and Eliza (Hook) Dawley, both of whom were natives of Virginia. The father was a merchant and was identified with commercial interests in Virginia until he determined to remove to Ohio, becoming one of the early settlers of the latter state. In pioneer times he would raft his goods down

the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans and he lost his life while on one of those trips when his children were very small. His wife survived him many years and it was in the late '60s when she was called to her final rest. Their children were John, Thomas, A. M. and Catharine Dawley.

A. M. Dawley was reared to manhood in his native state and supplemented his early education acquired in the public schools by a course in Mann College, being graduated from the law department. About 1852 he removed to Granville, Illinois, and in February, 1855, was there married. In March, of the same year, he brought his bride to Iowa, settling in Fort Dodge. He brought with him a stock of dry goods and opened a store in a log cabin a block west of the present site of the Duncombe Hotel, which was also his place of residence for a few weeks. He built the first frame house in Fort Dodge on the present site of the Duncombe Hotel, hauling the lumber from Boone. The family occupied that place for about two years and afterward the house was moved to the eastern outskirts of the town, where it still stands. It was later found, while excavating for another building, that the house originally stood on an Indian graveyard, which was not known, however, at the time, but in excavating many bones of the Indians were exhumed. In 1857 Mr. Dawley erected a large brick residence where the K. C. building now stands and following his demise his widow built a large frame residence adjoining. He passed away in 1885 and this frame building was erected in 1886. It now stands on South Tenth street, just south of the Wahconsa Hotel.

It was on the 8th of February, 1855, that Mr. Dawley was married to Miss Ellen Parker, who was born in Calais, Maine, March 31, 1833, a daughter of Dr. Charles and Susan (White) Parker. Her father was born in Livermore, Maine, and was a son of James and Phoebe Parker, the former a soldier of the Revolutionary war. In his family there were eight children, namely: James, Jesse, Simon, Charles, Benjamin, Nancy, Sarah and Phoebe. Dr. Charles Parker was for many years a practicing physician at Calais, Maine. He afterward removed to Houghton, Maine, and subsequently lived at Shickshinny, Pennsylvania, where he died in 1882, when more than seventy years of age. His wife had passed away in 1835, when in young womanhood. They were members of the Universalist church and they had two children, the elder daughter being Augusta, the wife of Horatio

Sprague, now a resident of Prairie View, Kansas. To Mr. and Mrs. Dawley were born four sons. Frank, the eldest, is an able lawyer of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He married Margaret Elizabeth Jacobs, of Fort Dodge, and they have four children, Fred, Catharine, Marion and Frances. Charles, the second son of the family, is a court reporter of Chicago. He married Renette E. Love, of DeKalb, Illinois, and they have a daughter, Helen. Fred, the third of the family, died at the age of six years. Harry passed away at Tucson, Arizona, when thirty-six years of age.

The death of the husband and father occurred in Washington, D. C., on the 24th of February, 1885, when he was about fifty-five years of age. He and his wife had traveled life's journey happily together for about thirty years. They held membership in the Universalist church and always displayed sterling qualities of character. Mr. Dawley was the first justice of the peace in Fort Dodge and was appointed register of the United States land office at Fort Dodge in 1869 and filled the position until the following year. He practiced law here for many years, becoming recognized as an able and learned attorney, and he also developed and improved a farm three miles north of Fort Dodge, although he did not make his home thereon. The last years of his life were spent in aiding to secure legislation for the Des Moines river land settlers and this kept him the greater part of the time in Washington, D. C. The River Land Bill for which he had labored so persistently finally passed the house of representatives the day before his death. He was a forcible public speaker, strong in his convictions, patriotic and fearless in his citizenship and a man of great force of character. He correctly judged life and its opportunities and made good use of his time and talents not only for the benefit of himself but also for others.

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#### WILLIAM H. H. COLBY.

William H. H. Colby is one of the leading business men of Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he conducts a livery business on an extensive scale. He was born in Vermont, March 18, 1840, and is a son of Harrison and Mary Colby, who were natives of that state. The father was prominent and successful in the hotel business in Vermont for many years and his prosperity followed

him when he moved to Wisconsin. He remained in that state for some time, going to Iowa in the '70s. He located in Fort Dodge and resided in this city until his death. He was one of the representative citizens of the community and his activities in the promotion of the Fort Ridgely Railroad have had an influential result upon the civic prominence of Fort Dodge. He died in 1885 and was survived by his wife for one year, her death occurring in 1886.

William H. H. Colby went to school in Wisconsin and followed the usual course of public instruction. He remained with his parents until his marriage in 1859, when he started in active life for himself in the livery and hotel business at Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. This venture was successful and was later followed by a general merchandise store at Token Creek, Wisconsin, in the operation of which Mr. Colby acted for his father and was successful in conserving his interests. In 1870 he removed to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and here engaged in the livery and lumber business upon the same site which he now occupies in his present activities. He has never left this location and has become one of the prosperous and successful men of Fort Dodge. He has gradually discontinued the lumber department of his enterprise and devotes his entire attention to the livery and transfer branch. His business has increased phenomenally and the enterprise which was begun upon a small and humble scale has now evolved into one of the largest of its kind in the city. He has recently erected a new brick building to give him increased capacity for his business transactions and has been an important factor in municipal development. He has devoted his time almost exclusively to commercial pursuits and his energies, directed along well controlled and economic lines, have resulted in a gratifying degree of prosperity. Although he is absorbed in business he is nevertheless a loyal citizen of Fort Dodge and his cooperation is never asked in vain in any movement looking toward its future prosperity and prominence.

Mr. Colby was married at the age of nineteen in Token Creek, Wisconsin, to Miss Emma E. Spaulding, a daughter of George H. and Mary (Lawrence) Spaulding, both natives of Vermont. The father was a prominent hotel proprietor and farmer in Token Creek for many years. After his wife's death he retired from commercial pursuits and made his home in Fort Dodge with his son-in-law, the subject of this sketch, with whom he remained

until his death, which occurred in 1874. To Mr. and Mrs. Colby have been born two children: Fred G., now a bookkeeper in his father's establishment; and Nellie, the wife of Arthur Keys, of Santiago, California. On October 10, 1911, Mrs. Colby was suddenly stricken with paralysis and passed away on October 13, 1911, after fifty-two years of happy married life.

Politically Mr. Colby is a republican but has never sought public office, although he casts his ballot at each election and takes an intelligent interest in public affairs. He is a member of the Masonic order but this constitutes his only fraternal affiliation. He prefers to keep his attention concentrated on the conduct of his business, believing that in commercial prosperity along worthy lines and in an exemplary private life true success and happiness lie.

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### CLEMMON L. GRANGER.

Among the enterprising business men of Fort Dodge whose efforts have been freely expended in promoting the development of the town must be mentioned the late Clemmon L. Granger, who contributed generously of both his time and money and worked tirelessly to advance the interests of the community.

He was born at Mount Clemens, Michigan, February 11, 1850, and is a son of Sylvester and Mary (Vernie) Granger. The father was born and reared in the state of New York and was of English extraction, while the mother was born in Michigan and was of French descent. Agricultural pursuits always engaged the energies of Sylvester Granger, who removed with his family from Michigan to Indiana in 1860, locating at Crown Point, where he and the mother passed the remainder of their lives.

The education of Clemmon L. Granger was begun in the common schools of his native state and completed in a private academy at Crown Point. In his early manhood he went to Belleville, Illinois, as local representative of the McCormick Manufacturing Company of Chicago. Later he was made general agent for this company in the states of Maryland and Pennsylvania, serving in this capacity for three years. In 1879, he came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and established an implement and seed store on the public square, where the Granger Company is now located.

He was associated with the late George F. Wise for three years, the business being conducted under the firm name of Granger & Wise. Later he formed a partnership with Peter M. Mitchell, also deceased, who is mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work, and for fifteen years the store was conducted under the name of Granger & Mitchell. For three years C. E. Brown now of Sioux City, Iowa, was financially interested in the enterprise and during that time it was operated under the name of C. L. Granger & Company. Mr. Granger continued to be actively identified with this business until his death, which occurred at the Passavant Hospital, Chicago, April 6, 1900. He met with good success and had built up a nice patronage, being favorably known throughout the agricultural sections of the entire county.

At Crown Point, Indiana, on the 4th of October, 1875, Mr. Granger was united in marriage to Miss Alice A. Willey, a daughter of George and Cynthia (Nash) Willey. The father was a native of Connecticut and when a small lad came to Madison county, New York, with his parents. There he was reared to manhood and subsequently met and married Miss Nash, a native of Madison county and a member of an old colonial family, many of her ancestors having participated in the Revolution. Mr. Willey began life as a farmer, but he subsequently studied law and also engaged in the real-estate business. In the early years of their domestic life he and his wife removed to Indiana, settling in Lake county, and there both passed away. Mrs. Granger, who is of English extraction in both the paternal and maternal lines, was given the advantages of good schooling and attended both the high school at Crown Point and a young ladies' seminary, where she completed her education.

When first granted the right of franchise upon attaining his majority, Mr. Granger voted the democratic ticket, but he later transferred his allegiance to the republican party, whose candidates he thereafter supported. He was always one of the foremost men in the community and took an active and helpful interest in all municipal affairs. His fellow townsmen manifested their appreciation of his services by electing him mayor of the city on five different occasions. That he discharged the duties of this office with efficiency and in a manner highly satisfactory to the community at large is evidenced by the period of his service. He was mayor when the city voted for bonds for the installation of a waterworks system and he was likewise the incumbent of

this office when the street railway franchise was granted. In the discharge of his official duties he exhibited the spirit of progress and enterprising methods that characterized him as a business man, and worked tirelessly in his efforts to promote the development of the various public utilities. He was not identified with any church but attended the Presbyterian, of which Mrs. Granger is a member, and fraternally he was affiliated with Ashlar Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M.; Calvary Commandery, No. 24, K. T.; and Fort Dodge Lodge, No. 248, A. O. U. W. Although twelve years have elapsed since the passing away of Mr. Granger, his personality was too strongly impressed upon the community in the development of which he had been a dominant factor, for him to be readily forgotten, while the various public utilities he assisted in promoting stand as monuments commemorating his services to the city.

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#### SENATOR FREDERIC LARRABEE.

It has long been an almost universally accepted fact that the professional man cannot win success along agricultural or commercial lines, that the qualities which fit him for one of the learned professions are not in harmony with the demands of the farm, the shop or the counting house. The record of Senator Frederic Larrabee, however, shows that the keen discrimination and analytical power which make him an able representative of the bar also enable him to successfully solve intricate business problems, and farming and stock-raising constitute an important source of his revenue in addition to his operations in real estate and his practice of law. Moreover, his fellow citizens recognize him as one well qualified for political leadership, so that he is now representing the twenty-seventh district, comprising Calhoun and Webster counties, in the upper house of the general assembly. He was born in Clermont, Iowa, November 3, 1873, and comes of New England ancestry. He is a son of ex-Governor William Larrabee, one of the honored pioneers and builders of the commonwealth of Iowa, of whom further mention is made on another page of this work. His paternal grandfather was Adam Larrabee, a native of Connecticut, who was of English lineage but more remotely of French descent. He served as a soldier with the

American troops in the War of 1812, holding the rank of lieutenant, and a wound which he sustained in an engagement hastened his death. Lieutenant Larrabee was a graduate of West Point and made a creditable record during his military service. The maternal grandfather of Senator Larrabee was Gustave Adolphus Appelman, who married Ann Williams. Both were natives of Connecticut and Mr. Appelman was of German descent, while his wife was of Welsh lineage. They were pioneer settlers of Clayton county.

Frederic Larrabee was a pupil in the public schools of Clermont, Iowa, and afterward attended the State University, being graduated from the collegiate department in 1897 and from the law department in 1898. He afterward pursued a special course at Columbia University. Throughout his life he has been a student not only of professional problems but also of the great economic, political and sociological questions which claim the attention of the statesman and the thinking man of the age. He became a resident of Fort Dodge in 1901 and has since that time here engaged in the practice of law and in the real-estate business. He is also interested in stock-raising and farming, breeding and handling thoroughbred cattle. He has large landed interests, owning several farms in the state which prove good sources of income to him. He is likewise interested in the Iowa Savings Bank and several banking and other business institutions. His property includes land in northern Iowa and a farm in Cooper township, Webster county, south of the Fort Dodge city limits, he and his brother Charles owning there four hundred acres. Upon that place they raise Brown Swiss cattle, their father having brought the first herd of Brown Swiss cattle into the state. He selected these as the breed best adapted to climatic and other conditions in northern Iowa and since that time the name of Larrabee has been connected with the breeding and raising of cattle on an extensive scale.

Senator Frederic Larrabee has always been a republican, interested in the growth and success of the party and doing all in his power to further its interests. In 1908 he was elected to represent the twenty-seventh district in the state senate, of which he is now an active member, making a creditable record by indorsement of the measures which he deems essential and valuable in promoting the welfare of the state. He has among his warm friends many of Iowa's most distinguished citizens and he, at all

times, commands the high regard and confidence of those with whom he associates. He was a member of Company G, Iowa National Guard, served as its first lieutenant and was connected with the state militia for about six years as an officer. He acted first as lieutenant and later as battalion adjutant of the Fifty-sixth Regiment and is widely known in military as well as in other circles throughout the state. His ability and fidelity have placed him in a position of public trust where he is accorded the honor and respect of his fellowmen.

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### REV. FRANCIS FAWKES.

Rev. Francis Fawkes is living retired in Otho after a period of active service as a Congregational minister, embracing almost fifty years of useful and forceful work in the cause of religious expansion. He is one of the most widely known and prominent clergymen in Otho township, where he has resided for almost half a century and where his sincere, earnest and useful life has gained him many friends. Mr. Fawkes is a native of England, born December 20, 1838, a son of Samuel and Sarah (Austin) Fawkes, natives of that country. The father was a weaver of woolen cloth in England and later spent ten years in the government employ, working in a dockyard. He remained in his native country until 1867 and then came to America, settling near Dubuque, Iowa, where he purchased a tract of timber land and began its improvement and cultivation. This farm he operated during the summer months for a number of years, working in the lead ore mines through the winter. He was finally obliged to retire on account of old age and took up his residence in Dubuque, where he lived until after the death of his wife, which occurred in 1892. In 1893 he came to Otho and made his home with the subject of this review until his death, in 1896.

Rev. Francis Fawkes was twenty-five years of age when he came to America. He had received a limited education in England, laying aside his books when he was thirteen years of age, being compelled at that time to earn his own livelihood. He has, however, improved his leisure by constant and well selected reading and is now one of the most cultured and educated gentlemen in Webster county. At thirteen years of age he went to work in

a woolen cloth factory and for four years labored arduously in this employment. Afterward he obtained a position in the government naval depot in the county of Kent and later secured work in a drug store in that vicinity, where he remained for eight years. In March, 1864, he came to America and settled in Dubuque, coming later to Wisconsin, to an uncle, where he located near Mineral Point. After some weeks' temporary residence in that section he returned to Dubuque, settling there for the second time in May, 1864. He obtained a position in a local drug store and for two years retained his connection with this enterprise. During all of these various removals he read and studied constantly and soon gained a liberal education. He delights in recalling his early struggles for the acquirement of learning and when asked from what school he was graduated, answers that he obtained his degree from a drug store. He was influenced in joining the ministry by Dr. Guernsey, head of the Congregational missionary work, and after his ordination became active as a missionary in Iowa. For three and one-half years he worked in Durango and then received a call from a church at Dows, where he remained for four years. His first residence in Otho dates from 1873 and here he remained for five years, preaching the gospel and doing other important missionary work. At the end of that time his health failed and he was obliged to give up active labor. Returning to Dubuque, he purchased a farm and operated it for twelve years with the object of regaining his shattered health by constant labor out of doors. His activities served the purpose for which they were intended and in 1890 he returned to Otho, where for fifteen years he was active in all kinds of ministerial work. At the end of that time his hearing and eyesight became poor and he was obliged to retire from the ministry, although he still maintains his residence in Otho. He owns a fine eighty acre farm two miles from town and two fine residence lots in the village and upon one of these he has built a modern and comfortable home in which he lives. For almost half a century he has worked for the spread of the doctrines in which he sincerely believes and his life, although quiet and unassuming, has been a potent factor of their widespread acceptance. His retirement is a well earned rest after arduous and faithful labor and was made necessary by failing health.

Mr. Fawkes was married in 1865 to Miss Elizabeth Fawkes and they had one son, Frank H., who is agent for the Northwest-

ern Mutual Life Insurance Company' at Pasadena, California. Mr. Fawkes' first wife died in 1868 and in the following year he wedded Miss Susan R. Woodhouse, a daughter of William and Ann (Boyd) Woodhouse, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Kentucky. To this union were born seven children, Harriet G., Clement W., Sarah R., Edith A., Nora M., Ernest W., and Otis, whose death occurred in 1874. Of the six who survive all are married except Ernest. Mrs. Fawkes was struck by lightning on July 4, 1883, and instantly killed. In November, 1890, Mr. Fawkes was again married, his third wife being Miss Margaret W. Martin, a daughter of James and Janet (Lyon) Martin, natives of Scotland. The father was a farmer in his native country and continued in that occupation all his life. He died in Scotland in 1859 and his wife died there in 1875. Five of their children at different times came to the United States, all settled in Webster county and are married. Mrs. Fawkes was born in Scotland in October, 1839.

Mr. Fawkes gives his allegiance to the prohibition party and is an active worker in this organization. He is a fine example of a sincere, earnest, unselfish and industrious clergyman. Personal advancement has never entered into his plan of life and his professions of faith are supported by good works and charities which make him an influence in the promotion of the universal religion of kindness and good-will.

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#### HENRY H. BALDWIN.

Henry H. Baldwin is one of the honored veterans of the Civil war, who now, after many years of successful attention to his chosen vocation as a printer, is living retired at Fort Dodge, Webster county, Iowa, where he has spent the major portion of the active business years of his life. He was born on Orange Mountain, New Jersey, February 10, 1843, and is a son of Lemuel and Rachel (Perry) Baldwin, the former of whom was born in Orange, New Jersey, in 1806. The mother was a native of New Jersey and was related to Commodore Perry, of Lake Erie fame in the War of 1812. The father, of English descent, removed with his family to Columbus, Ohio, and there established his home in 1845, where he died in July, 1856.

Henry H. Baldwin was reared in his parents' home and received his elementary education in the public schools of Columbus, Ohio. At the close of his school years he became an apprenticed printer on the Ohio State Journal and in that occupation he continued until the opening of the Civil war. He then enlisted at Columbus, Ohio, in Company H, Eighty-fifth Ohio Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, and at once went with his command to Camp Chase, where his company was employed in guard duty at the federal prison. He was among the early volunteers who responded to President Lincoln's call for thirty-day men and at the expiration of his three months of service he went to Cambridge, Illinois, to which place his mother had removed, and there enlisted in Company C, of the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and continued as a soldier in the field until the close of the war. His command campaigned through the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina, during which time his regiment was detailed for six months as mounted infantry. He was then transferred to Company F, of the Sixty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. A few of the engagements in which Mr. Baldwin took part during his life as a soldier were the battles of Knoxville, Dallas, Peachtree, Atlanta, New Hope Church, Ezra Church, the Franklin and Nashville campaigns, the battle of Town Creek and the capture of Fort Anderson. His command then joined Sherman at Goldsboro, North Carolina, and immediately following the surrender of Johnston the regiment went into permanent camp at Greensboro, North Carolina, where it remained until the subject of this review was mustered out of service in July, 1865. His command was detained in Greensboro for the purpose of restoring civil government in that part of North Carolina, and thus failed to participate in the grand review of veterans at Washington. Company C, of the One Hundred and Twelfth Volunteer Infantry, of which the subject of this review was a member, belonged to the Third Brigade, Third Division of the Twenty-third Corps of the Army of the Ohio. At the close of the war Mr. Baldwin returned to Illinois and located at Cambridge, at which place he celebrated his marriage in 1865. Two years later he established his home at Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he accepted the position of foreman of the composing room on the Fort Dodge Messenger, and in various positions he continued until 1911, at which time he severed his connection with the printing business and retired from active life.

He was also occasionally employed as ad man in the composing room of the Chronicle office at Fort Dodge. His entire business career in Fort Dodge, however, was in employment with one or the other of these papers.

In 1865 Mr. Baldwin was united in marriage at Cambridge, Illinois, to Miss Emma Stephenson, a daughter of Richard and Laura (Finch) Stephenson, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. The father was a veteran of the Civil war and removed in 1865 from Cambridge to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he established his home and continued to live during the remaining years of his life, which closed in 1894. The mother's death occurred in 1886. To Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin four children were born. Carrie was born in 1866 and died in 1886. Harry O., born in 1872, was married June 5, 1895, to Miss Byrd Utley, of Alden, Iowa, and they reside in Fort Dodge. Richard B., born in 1874, was married in October, 1906, to Miss Kate Schneider, of Garner, Iowa, and they now reside in Fort Dodge. Dawn, who completes the family, is the wife of William H. Gaughan, of Phoenix, Arizona. The mother of this family died August 18, 1899.

Mr. Baldwin has been a lifelong republican, and is an honored member of Fort Donelson Post, G. A. R., and is also a member of the Congregational church of his adopted city. He is one of the substantial and highly esteemed men of Fort Dodge and has so lived as to gain and retain the good-will and high regard of the people with whom he has come in contact.

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#### PETER F. FLANAGAN.

The energies of Peter F. Flanagan have for some years been successfully devoted to mercantile pursuits, in which he has won the advancement achieved by the man of intelligent effort and stalwart purpose. He is a native of Iowa and was born in Clinton county on the 11th of April, 1863, his parents being John and Catherine (Green) Flanagan. The parents were both natives of Ireland, whence they emigrated to the United States in early life. The father first located in Illinois, where he farmed for a time, and then removed to Clinton county, Iowa. There he purchased some land and continued his agricultural pursuits until 1870. In the latter year he disposed of his place

and removed to Greene county, investing his capital in another farm. The development of this property enlisted his energies until his death, which occurred in 1894. The mother had passed away about two years previously.

Peter F. Flanagan was a lad of seven years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Greene county, where he was reared and educated. He assisted with the cultivation of the home farm until he was nineteen years of age when he went to Lohrville to learn the blacksmith's trade. He followed this vocation during the greater part of the succeeding thirteen years, following which he worked at the carpenter's trade for a time. In 1896, he came to Clare and opened a restaurant, but he subsequently disposed of this and engaged in the mercantile business. Despite his inexperience the latter venture thrived, largely owing to his good judgment, close attention to details and gracious and accommodating treatment of patrons. More than average prosperity has rewarded the efforts of Mr. Flanagan who in addition to his store owns his residence and two store buildings and holds some stock in the Clare Mutual Telephone Company.

In January, 1891, Mr. Flanagan was married to Miss Mary Casey, a daughter of John and Susan (Ryan) Casey, natives of Canada, who had moved to Greene county, Iowa, in 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan have no children of their own but have adopted a son, Martin Casey. They are communicants of the Roman Catholic church, and fraternally Mr. Flanagan is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of Columbus and Yeomen. In politics he staunchly supports the republican party, but has never sought or aspired to public office. He is a man of strong determination and much tenacity of purpose, as is evidenced by his career, which has been pursued with the relentless energy of one resolved to succeed.

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#### ALBERT HENRY FREDERICK GUHL.

The power of energy, resourceful ability, determination, and enterprise is well illustrated in the career of Albert Guhl, whose leading position in business circles of Vincent gives little hint of the penniless and friendless condition of the German boy of seventeen, who settled in this section of Iowa twenty-one years



ALBERT GUHL

THE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
AS  
AND  
FOUNDATIONS.

ago. He is today one of the most successful men in Vincent and his prosperity is the more creditable since it lay at the end of a hard road and was reached only after difficulties and early struggles. Mr. Guhl was born in Ganschendorf, province of Pommern, Germany, July 22, 1874, a son of Frederick and Mary (Genson) Guhl, natives of that section. His father is well known in the tailoring business in Ganschendorf and has followed that occupation during his active life. Neither he nor his wife has ever come to America.

After completing his education in the public schools of Germany, Albert Guhl learned the shoemaking trade and after serving his apprenticeship, worked at this occupation for one year. Becoming dissatisfied with his attainments and prospects he determined to seek greater advantages in America, and crossing the Atlantic, settled in Webster county, near Vincent, when he was seventeen years of age. He obtained work as a farm hand in the employ of Henry Bastian and held this position for four years. When he resigned he still made his home with his former employer and remained in that section of Webster county for ten years. At the end of that time he moved to Vincent, where he established a small restaurant which was the nucleus of his present important enterprise. With true German thrift and singleness of purpose, and aided by a determination which is an element in his own individuality he applied himself to making his business expand. Little by little the enterprise grew and as success came Mr. Guhl added to his building until today it is a large and ably conducted restaurant with all the aspects of metropolitan institutions. He has built up a gratifying and constantly growing patronage and has become in the course of years wealthy and prosperous. The money which he has made he has invested principally in business property in Vincent, owning five large buildings in the busiest section of the village.

On March 27, 1901, Mr. Guhl was united in marriage to Miss Anna Wilson, a daughter of Matthew and Catherina (Hemming) Wilson, natives of Norway. Her father came to America in his early years and settled immediately in Vincent, where for a long time he conducted a dairying business. He died in Eagle Grove, Iowa, November 20, 1899. His wife makes her home in Vincent. Mr. and Mrs. Guhl have five children, Emma Marie, Otto Carl Frederick, Edna Irene, Alice Lillian and Albert Julius. The family belong to the German Lutheran church.

Mr. Guhl affiliates with the progressive party and for four years served as a member of the Vincent town council and did much constructive and organizing work along lines of municipal advancement, bringing to the discharge of his official duties a conscientiousness and an energy and political influence which proved him as capable in a public way as in the management of his private business enterprise.

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### THOMAS F. GURNETT.

Thomas F. Gurnett has been a resident of Iowa since he was six months old and has spent practically his entire life in this state. He is now engaged in the operation of a general store at Barnum, where he is known as a practical and enterprising business man. He was born in La Salle, Illinois, in September, 1863, and is a son of Andrew and Ellen (Martin) Gurnett, natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1850, locating in La Salle, Illinois, where he worked as a brakeman on a railroad for about three years, moving at the end of that time to Linn county, Iowa, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land at six dollars per acre. He operated this farm and made extensive improvements, selling it at the end of three years at twelve dollars per acre. He then purchased two hundred and forty acres, paying for this six dollars per acre, to which he added from time to time until he owned five hundred and twenty acres. He followed farming until 1909, when he retired from active life and moved to the vicinity of Fairfax, where he is now making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Frank Cahill. His wife passed away in 1904.

Thomas Gurnett was six months old when he came to Iowa with his parents. He was reared at home and received his early education in the district schools of Linn county, supplementing this by a course at Tilford's Academy at Vinton, Iowa. After he completed his studies he worked for his father upon the farm for a few years, later renting the Rockford Stock farm, where for three years he carried on general agricultural pursuits. He then purchased one hundred and twenty acres in College township, Linn county, which he operated for seven years, disposing of his holdings eventually in order to come to Barnum, where he

bought a general store, with which he has been identified up to the present time. He met with rapid and well deserved success which was founded upon the systematic and businesslike methods by which he operated his enterprise and upon industry, activity and honesty which are elements in his character. His store was destroyed by fire in 1902 but in the same year Mr. Gurnett erected the fine brick building which he now occupies. He carries a large stock of goods, which is always complete and artistically arranged. He has a large and constantly growing patronage and is ranked among the substantial and prosperous merchants of Barnum. He is a stockholder in the Barnum Telephone Company and has an interest in a large estate in Linn county.

In March, 1891, Mr. Gurnett was united in marriage to Miss Margaret E. Moran, a daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Moran, both natives of Ireland. Mrs. Gurnett passed away on November 25, 1911, after a short illness, leaving five children, Lizzie, Willie, Thomas, Esther and Leo.

Fraternally Mr. Gurnett affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Order of Yeomen. He belongs to the Roman Catholic church. In his political views he is a consistent democrat and has served as mayor of Barnum for two terms and was a member of the town council for six years. His interest in education is evidenced by his ten years of able service on the school board, of which he was president for nine years, having shown in all the phases of his political life an eagerness in promoting the general welfare and progress of his community, which is true public spirit.

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### JULIUS ELMER COURTRIGHT.

Julius E. Courtright is one of the most highly respected and esteemed business men in Duncombe, Iowa, where he has lived since 1909. He has been identified with the general merchandise and livery business in the city during the three years of his residence and has conducted both his enterprises along modern and progressive lines, gaining thereby a gratifying and well deserved success. He is a native son of Webster county, having been born in Washington township, October 26, 1869. His parents were James and Ellen (Stalp) Courtright, the former a native

of Pennsylvania and the latter of Illinois. His father came to Webster county with his parents in 1856 when he was ten years of age and was reared and educated in this section. He remained with his parents until the outbreak of the Civil war when he enlisted in Company K, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of hostilities. After his discharge he returned home and worked for his father upon the farm for some time, later renting a tract of land which he operated several years. He was eventually able to purchase a quarter section on section 34, Washington township, which he improved and cultivated along modern and progressive lines, adding to his holdings from time to time until he finally owned two hundred and twenty acres well improved and intelligently developed. This farm he cultivated until 1909, when he sold his property and moved to Duncombe, where he has since resided. He has reached the age of sixty-six, while his wife is in the sixty-fourth year of her age.

Julius E. Courtright was reared and educated in Webster county and remained with his parents upon the home farm until he had attained his majority. In that year he purchased eighty acres, constituting a portion of the homestead which had belonged to his grandfather, on section 34, Washington township, and spent a number of years operating and improving this tract. When he finally disposed of the property he established himself in the mercantile business at Brushy, and conducted an independent enterprise of this kind for two years, selling at the end of that time and coming to Duncombe, where he engaged in the livery business. He was successful in this line of occupation for eight years but finally disposed of his interests and purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Washington township, which he improved and operated for two years. When he sold that farm he purchased eighty acres of land on section 2, Webster township, which he has now rented out. He subsequently engaged in the general merchandise business in Duncombe and after one year in this line of activity sold his interests and again became identified with a livery enterprise which he has operated since that time. On June 2, 1912, his building was destroyed by fire and he has just completed a fine new barn and feed sheds on the corner of the principal street in Duncombe and owns besides his comfortable and modern home. In the village he has a wide acquaintance and many friends who respect him for his business attainments and for his upright life.

In March, 1890, Mr. Courtright was united in marriage to Miss Anna A. Royster, a daughter of C. W. and Amelia Royster. They became the parents of five children: Ward S., who passed away in 1892; Mildred B.; Delmar R.; Geneva Fern; and Clifford W.

Faternally Mr. Courtright belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and his wife is a member of the Royal Neighbors. He has been a substitute for the past seven years on the rural mail route and is active in various local enterprises. He is well known in republican politics and served as mayor of Duncombe for two years. He was elected constable of his township and although he did not qualify for the position is acting and fulfilling his duties ably in the absence of a substitute. He is interested in education and is now serving as a member of the school board, bringing to his duties in this capacity the same industry and intelligent activity which have marked his business and political career.

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#### W. C. HAVILAND.

W. C. Haviland has contributed to the agricultural and business growth of Cooper township, Webster county, Iowa, by his efficient and capable management of one of the most extensive and prosperous fruit orchards in the state. His business is a natural outgrowth of his father's, who in partnership with a brother planted the first apple tree in Cooper township and was prominently identified with the nursery business during his life. Mr. Haviland was born in Princeton, Illinois, on November 15, 1852, and is a son of Andrew Jackson and Mary M. (Colby) Haviland, the former a native of Dutchess county, New York, and the latter of Manchester, Vermont. Andrew Jackson Haviland was born October 20, 1820, and spent his early life in his native state. In 1842 he went to Chicago and worked at his trade—that of millwright—for a number of years. He came to Princeton, Illinois, from Chicago, and followed the same line of occupation. He had learned his trade in the early '30s in New York and was known in the various cities in which he resided as an expert workman. He later went into the contracting business at Princeton and was successful in that line of work until 1855. He was married in Elgin, Illinois, and in 1855 established his residence in Iowa, buying one hundred and sixty acres in Webster county. He

went into the nursery business and in 1860 built a home in Fort Dodge, where he resided and continued in the line of occupation with which he was connected since his coming to the state. He was one of the first settlers north of Fort Dodge and he and his brothers made the first permanent location in this section. He was the pioneer horticulturist and nurseryman in the northwestern part of Iowa and carried on an extensive trade in this line in conjunction with one of his brothers. In the fall of 1855 this brother made a trip back to Princeton, Illinois, and purchased and brought to Iowa the first apple trees which were ever set out in the state. He made the journey with ox teams and was the pioneer in what afterward became a great and flourishing industry. He was one of the prominent fruit growers in this section of the country and for years served as president of the State Horticultural Society. His picture now hangs in an honored place in the horticultural room in the state capital. The father of our subject continued in the nursery business at his original location in Fort Dodge until 1872, in which year he sold out his place there and bought the property where the North Floral Company now stands. Here he operated a small enterprise and continued there until his death, which occurred on March 9, 1888. His wife survived him a number of years, dying on the 9th of March, 1901. Mrs. Haviland was a sister of Myra Bradwell, who was the founder of the Chicago Legal News and had the distinction of being the first woman to ask to be admitted to the bar. She was a cultured and educated woman and had passed her legal examination but was refused admittance on account of her being married. She educated a young lady, however, and succeeded in gaining the latter's admittance to the bar. W. C. Haviland is one of four children born to his parents. The others are: Perry A., born in Iowa, who is now a civil engineer and county surveyor of Alameda county, California, where he is working for the government; Mrs. Mary E. Humphrey, who resides in Sioux City, Iowa; and Mrs. Lucy J. Black, whose home is at Parshall, Colorado.

W. C. Haviland was reared in Iowa and educated in the public schools of Fort Dodge. He supplemented his primary course by a period at the Iowa State Agricultural College at Ames, Iowa, and later studied business methods in a commercial college at Des Moines. Upon finishing his education he went to Chicago, where he accepted a position as actuary, examining insurance companies for the state of Illinois. His office was located at 206

La Salle street and he was prosperous in this line of occupation for one year. At the end of that time he returned to Iowa and went into the general mercantile business at Manson, where he conducted a store with gratifying success for one year. He then came to Fort Dodge and engaged in the buying and selling of grain in partnership with his cousin and uncle. This phase of his activity extended over one year and at the end of that time the three partners went to Colorado, where they operated an extensive sheep ranch twenty miles northeast of Colorado Springs. They there remained from 1875 until 1876, returning in the latter year to Fort Dodge. Mr. Haviland then started a notion store, which was located where the Plymouth Clothing Store now stands, and was successful in this line for one year. He eventually sold out and became associated with his father as a traveling salesman. The state of Iowa was at that time still sparsely settled and Mr. Haviland can remember driving for days at a time without seeing a single house. He continued working in the interests of his father until 1879, in which year he associated himself with H. C. Bradwell, of New York city, in a wholesale nursery business. They purchased one hundred and sixty acres, which constitutes the farm upon which Mr. Haviland now lives in Cooper township, and set out fruit trees. They were successful from the beginning and soon had extensive interests in orchard property in Iowa. They owned four hundred acres near Humboldt, and their business became more important every year. In the fall of 1885 they shipped out two million apple trees to markets all over the United States. They continued together until 1900, in which year the partnership was dissolved. Mr. Haviland continued in the nursery business alone, operating in a smaller way. He is now engaged entirely in the growing and selling of fruit and owns one of the best orchards in the state. He has one hundred and forty acres of land, planted almost entirely in apples. He is known as an expert in anything pertaining to the planting and care of fruits and to his efficient and intelligent methods of labor he owes his success. Most of his apples he ships to the Minneapolis markets and in the fall of 1912 sold sixteen carloads in that city.

On March 26, 1884, Mr. Haviland was united in marriage to Miss Mary Martin, a daughter of David E. and Clara (Reeve) Martin, the former of New York and the latter of Massachusetts. David Martin came to Illinois in pioneer times and worked at his

trade as shoemaker in Princeton. He later engaged in the real-estate business and became prominent in politics, serving with efficiency and ability as sheriff of Bureau county. He lived in Princeton until his death, in April, 1903. His wife survived him for four years, dying in January, 1907. To Mr. Haviland's first marriage was born one child, Andrew J., whose birth occurred on December 16, 1885, and who is now living in Des Moines, Iowa, where he is operating a tree surgery business. The first Mrs. Haviland died on December 16, 1903, after an illness of two years. On September 16, 1906, our subject was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Rowena (Angier) Barber, a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Smith) Angier, natives of New York. Mrs. Haviland's father was among the early settlers of Iowa and located in the western part of the state at Garnavillo, where the wife of our subject was born. He was a carpenter by trade and worked at this line of occupation until 1864, when he moved to Storm Lake, Iowa, and followed the same line until 1893. In that year he went to Tennessee and resided in that state until his death, in February, 1897. His wife passed away in 1890.

In politics Mr. Haviland is republican but has never sought public office. He and his wife affiliate with the Baptist church and are active religious workers. Judged by every standard Mr. Haviland has been a successful man. The work he does he does well, accomplishing his prosperity by a thorough knowledge of every aspect of his business, by personal supervision and attention to its details and by practical and intelligent labor.

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#### G. F. SPRINGER.

G. F. Springer is successfully engaged in the cultivation of one hundred and ten acres of land located on section 34, Roland township, Webster county, Iowa. He was born in Stark county, Illinois, July 30, 1860, and is a son of David and Mary Catherine (Chandler) Springer, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The father was of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry and when a child removed to Illinois with his parents who settled in Stark county. In 1875 he came to Iowa, making the journey by wagon and being eleven days on the road. Upon reaching this state he set-

tled near Paton, Greene county, on wild land which he improved and where he continued to reside until 1882. He then removed to Webster county and there located on unimproved land on section 34, Roland township. That property he improved with good buildings and there he continued to live until the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1909. During his residence in Iowa he acquired a considerable amount of land, but at the time of his death he had disposed of all his real estate except sixty acres, on which property his widow still lives. They were the parents of six children: James H., deceased; Marion, a resident of Roland township; G. F., the subject of this review; Christina Elizabeth, the wife of W. A. Young and residing in Fort Dodge, Iowa; Elmer, who is operating the old homestead; and Martha Luella, deceased.

G. F. Springer was reared at home and received his education in Stark county, Illinois, and Greene county, Iowa. He remained under the parental roof and was engaged in work on his father's farm until he was twenty-six years of age. He then purchased a farm located on section 34 in Roland township. The land at that time was without any improvements and since his residence on the property Mr. Springer has improved it with all necessary buildings and has brought the farm to a high state of cultivation. He now owns one hundred and ten acres and in his farming operations he has met with gratifying success.

In 1887 Mr. Springer was united in marriage to Miss Martha Amine Jackson, a daughter of Andrew and Lydia (Cooper) Jackson. The father was a native of New York and the mother of Ohio. They came to Illinois at an early date and, in 1881, removed to Iowa and located on an unimproved farm, one mile northwest of Gowrie, where they remained until 1891, at which time they removed to Lake View, Sac county, Iowa, and there spent the remaining years of their lives. The mother died in 1907 and the father in 1911. Mrs. Jackson had previously married William Karr and to that union four children were born: Merritt Lee, a resident of Lake View, Iowa; David W., of Kansas; Maud, the wife of D. A. Gillis of Creston, Illinois; and Laura, deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jackson four children were born: Wilmuth Celia, deceased; Martha Amine, the wife of the subject of this sketch; John W., a resident of Lockhart, Minnesota; and Melville, who makes his home in Lake View, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Springer are the parents of three children: Vin-

nie Grace, who died at the age of nine years; Maudie Mae, a graduate of the Gowrie high school; and Clarence Franklin, who is attending the public schools.

Mr. Springer is affiliated with the republican party and has served as trustee of Roland township for one year. He has also been in the office of school director for two or three years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America of Gowrie and he and his wife are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Springer is an enterprising, successful farmer, and a man well respected in the community in which he lives.

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### THOMAS F. SIMS.

Thomas F. Sims, one of the organizers and cashier of the Farmers Savings Bank, takes high rank among the business men of Duncombe by reason of his efficiency and enterprise, which enable him to carry to a successful issue anything he undertakes. A native of Mitchell county, his birth occurred in Orchard on August 28, 1873, his parents being Daniel and Bridgett (Gibbons) Sims. They were born and reared in Ireland, whence the father emigrated to the United States in his early manhood, first locating in Illinois. From there he removed to Mitchell county, this state, locating at Orchard, where for many years he held the position of section foreman on the Illinois Central Railroad. He resided in Orchard until his death, which occurred in August, 1906, his energies being devoted to railroading. He was survived by the mother, who passed away in 1908.

Reared at home, Thomas F. Sims began his education in the public schools of his native town and completed it in Cedar Valley Seminary, at Osage, this state. He subsequently learned telegraphy and when qualified for a position entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad, remaining in their service until 1901. He was made station agent, and his last appointment in this capacity was at Duncombe. He resigned his position in 1901 and in June of that year bought out the general mercantile establishment of Lundy & Son. This was his first venture in commercial pursuits, but he is a practical man of good judgment and keen discernment in matters of business and made a success of the undertaking. Disposing of his store in the spring of 1908, he

engaged in the banking business and in October, 1911, organized the Farmers Savings Bank, with a capital stock of fifteen thousand dollars. It is one of the well established thriving financial institutions of the state, its officials all being reputable business men of reliable methods and recognized standing. William Malingier is president; E. T. Davidson, vice president; and Mr. Sims, cashier.

In August, 1901, Mr. Sims was married to Miss Rose Latta, a daughter of Johnson and Elizabeth Latta, and to them have been born three children: Roland, who is eight years of age; Johnson, who has passed the fourth anniversary of his birth; and Florence, who has passed her second birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sims are communicants of the Roman Catholic church, and fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Foresters and Modern Woodmen of America. His allegiance in matters politic he accords to the democratic party, and he has on several occasions been called to public office. For seven years he held the office of city treasurer, meeting the responsibilities of his position in a highly commendable manner, while he served with equal efficiency as mayor. Mr. Sims is a man of fine discernment, keen discrimination and unfaltering purpose, all of which are manifested in his carefully considered plans and well organized methods of procedure in his business transactions. Although he is conservative in his methods he has too much confidence in his foresight and powers of organization to make him unduly cautious; at the same time he does not overestimate his ability as is evidenced by the orderly progress he has made in his business career.

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#### GEORGE W. MASON.

Nature seems to have intended that in the evening of life man shall enjoy a period of rest. At an early age he is fired with the ambition, the zeal and the courage of youth; to these, in time, are added the experience and sound judgment of mature manhood; and then, if labor is intelligently directed, success is certain, enabling the individual in his later years to put aside the more arduous cares of earlier manhood. Such has been the record of George W. Mason, who is living retired, in Fort Dodge, his

home being at No. 902 First avenue, South. He was born in Canandaigua, Ontario county, New York, July 18, 1838, and is a son of Dennison R. and Mary (Brandt) Mason, who were also natives of the Empire state. The father was reared upon a farm in Ontario county, New York, and was a son of Samuel and Hannah (Herindeen) Mason. Samuel Mason was a native of Massachusetts and made farming his life work. Both he and his wife were of the Quaker faith and they died within the same week, in May, 1842, when well advanced in years. They had five children, Dennison R., Gardner, Selinda, Mercy and Mary. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Mason Brandt, who was born at Kinderhook, New York, and married Phoebe Knapp. The latter had been adopted by the Chapin family at Canandaigua, which family had charge of the treaties and the payment of six Indian nations there. Mason Brandt was of Holland Dutch descent and was a soldier in the War of 1812. He made farming his life work and became, in time, the owner of one of the best cultivated tracts of land in his part of the state. Both he and his wife died in the east, the former at the age of fifty-eight years and the latter when eighty-seven years of age. They were the parents of six children, Alexander, Samuel, George, Mary, Betsy Elizabeth and Laura.

D. R. Mason was reared on a farm in Ontario county, New York, and later became a lumberman of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, and of Chippewa Falls, in the same state.<sup>1</sup> The last ten years of his life were spent in Monroe county, New York, where he died in 1883 at the age of eighty-seven years. He was originally a Quaker but later he became identified with the Congregational church. In his family were six children, five of whom lived to maturity: Hannah E., of Fairport, New York; Samuel, deceased; George W., of this review; Harvey, of Beatrice, Nebraska; Benjamin F., deceased; and Byron, who died at the age of four years.

George W. Mason was twelve years of age when he left Ontario county, New York, and accompanied his parents to Wisconsin, where he was reared to manhood. He acquired his education in the heart of the lumber woods of that state and in early life became a lumberman, which occupation he followed from 1850 until 1864. He was a lad of only twelve years when he thus began to earn his living and he has since been dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood. In 1864, he returned to New York and lived in Monroe county until 1872, when he came to Fort

Dodge, Iowa, and was there engaged in the grocery business in partnership with his brother Benjamin for eighteen months. At the end of that time he turned his attention to the live-stock business, handling both cattle and hogs for a time. For thirty-one years he conducted a lumber business in which he is still interested. His brother Benjamin passed away in 1902. While Mr. Mason still has financial connections with the lumber trade he leaves the management of his business largely to others and has practically retired. He is enjoying well earned rest for his success followed earnest, persistent, indefatigable effort and straightforward dealing. He early grasped the eternal truth that industry wins, and industry became the beacon light of his life.

On the 26th of December, 1872, George W. Mason married Miss Hannah O'Connell, a daughter of Richard and Margaret (Dobbyns) O'Connell. Mrs. Mason was born in Franklin county, New York, and her parents were natives of County Cork, Ireland. While crossing the Atlantic to America, on the same vessel, her father and mother met for the first time and were married in Malone, Franklin county, New York, where they lived until called to their final rest. They were farming people, well known in the community, where they reared nine sons and a daughter, namely: Maurice D.; John G.; William; Richard S.; Edmund; Hannah; Daniel; George P.; and two who died in infancy. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Mason was Maurice O'Connell, who married Nellie Kent and had six children, Maurice, John, Richard, Catherine, Betsy and Hannah. The maternal grandparents were Edmund and Margaret (Jeffrey) Dobbyns, who had six children, John, William, Ellen, Margaret, Betsy and Nora. To Mr. and Mrs. George W. Mason have been born three children but the eldest, Nellie, died when about five months old. The others are Georgia Anna and Margaret Mary, both graduates of Smith College at Northampton, Massachusetts. The elder is the wife of Edward Orne Damon, an able architect with headquarters in Washington, D. C., and they have a son, Mason Orne Damon. The younger daughter is the wife of John Haire, Jr., of Fort Dodge, and they have one son, George Mason Haire. Mr. and Mrs. Mason are members of the Catholic church. George W. Mason belongs to the Knights of Columbus, while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has been a leading spirit in the encouragement of industries and in bringing about public improvements which have figured prominently in

the development and growth of Fort Dodge. He was instrumental in securing the building of the handsome Wahkonsa Hotel and he developed a large lumber industry here. His interests have always been of a character that contributes to public prosperity. He early realized that there is no advancement in life without effort. Life affords opportunities for physical, mental and spiritual development and in this country these opportunities are offered to any who will embrace them. Humble birth and poverty are no handicap to the American youth. Opportunities, however, slip away from the sluggard and tauntingly play before the dreamer but surrender to the individual of high purpose, undaunted courage and indefatigable determination. The possession of the latter qualities has brought George W. Mason to a prominent and honored place among the successful and highly respected residents of Fort Dodge.

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#### OWEN DWYER.

Owen Dwyer, who is associated with his brother in the cultivation of a farm of a hundred and twenty acres in Douglas township, has been identified with the agricultural development of Webster county from boyhood. He was born on the farm where he now lives on the 5th of July, 1873, and is a son of Thomas and Anna (Bray) Dwyer, natives of Ireland. The father came to America in his early manhood and settled in New York state. From there he proceeded to Illinois and then went to St. Louis, where he was living at the opening of the Civil war. He enlisted in Company M, First Missouri Cavalry, remaining in the service for three years. Upon receiving his discharge he came to Iowa and entered eighty acres of land in Douglas township, this county. In his efforts to develop his farm he encountered the usual obstacles and discouragements that fall to the lot of the average pioneer. Despite his difficulties, however, he more than held his own and each year marked an improvement in his circumstances. He was subsequently able to buy an adjoining tract of forty acres, making his holding aggregate a hundred and twenty acres. The further improvement and cultivation of his property engaged his undivided attention until he passed away in

1876. The mother is still living at the age of sixty-three and continues to make her residence on the homestead with her sons.

Owen Dwyer has very little recollection of his father, as he was a child of only two and one-half years when he passed away. His boyhood and youth were passed on the home place, his education being acquired in the local schools. When old enough to become self-supporting, his text-books were laid aside and he went to work. For ten years, thereafter he was employed by various farmers in this vicinity, but at the expiration of that time he and his brother took charge of the home place, which is held in common by the mother and children, the property never having been divided. They engage in diversified farming and stock-raising with very good success. They annually prepare about thirty-five head of hogs for the market and keep seven cows and eight head of horses.

Owen Dwyer is a devout member of the Roman Catholic church and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Columbus, being affiliated with the council at Fort Dodge. Politically he supports the democratic ticket and is now serving as township trustee and has been one of the school directors. Mr. Dwyer has proven to be an efficient public servant, discharging his duties promptly and faithfully, thus fulfilling the expectations of his friends and fellow townsmen, who gave him their support.

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### HARLOW MUNSON PRATT.

Harlow Munson Pratt was born in Otho township, Webster county, Iowa, October 21, 1876. He is a son of Luther Herbert and Vergenia L. (Markham) Pratt. When he was about one year of age, his parents moved to Charlotte, Clinton county, Iowa. In 1886 they returned to Webster county, and the father engaged in farming. Here the son spent most of his boyhood, farming with his father. His early education was received in the village school at Charlotte, and later in the "Old Number One" school of Otho township. Then, in the winter of 1893, he attended Tobin College, and again in 1894, helping on the farm during the summer. In the fall of 1896, he entered Tobin College and graduated from the normal department with the class of 1897. For two years he taught school, first in the Hudson school in Otho township, and then in the Flaherty school in Douglas township.

In 1899 he entered the University of Iowa. Here he spent six years, graduating from both the college of liberal arts and the college of law. When at the university he became interested in newspaper work, and held both the position of editor and manager of the Daily Iowan. He was also city editor of the Iowa Citizen for one year.

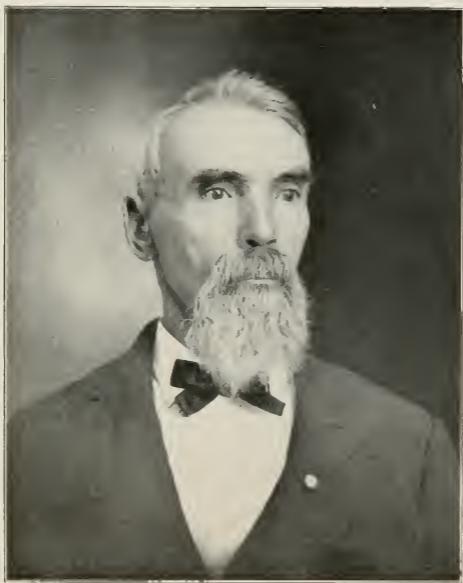
On January 1, 1902, he was married to Miss Margaret Allie Tobin, daughter of the late Professor T. Tobin, founder of Tobin College. Mrs. Pratt was born at Vinton, Iowa, March 5, 1879. With the founding of the college at Fort Dodge she removed to this city in 1892. She graduated from the college in 1895, and later took up commercial work. Entering the Iowa State Normal School in the fall of 1899, she graduated the following summer. At different times she has been a teacher both in Tobin College and the Fort Dodge public schools. During the year 1901 she entered the University of Iowa, becoming a member of the same class as Mr. Pratt. Together they graduated in 1903, and while Mr. Pratt studied law, Mrs. Pratt took up graduate work, receiving a Master's degree in 1905, the same year that Mr. Pratt received his degree from the college of law. In the fall of 1905 they became residents of the city of Fort Dodge, and Mr. Pratt began the practice of law.

Both he and Mrs. Pratt have identified themselves with the life of the city, and are members of a number of clubs and fraternal societies. For the past five years Mr. Pratt has held the office of secretary of the Fort Dodge Commercial Club. Both he and Mrs. Pratt are members of the Congregational church. Politically Mr. Pratt has always been a republican.

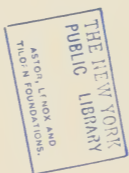
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#### RUFUS P. HUNTER.

For many years Rufus P. Hunter figured as one of the enterprising and prosperous agriculturists of Webster county and was, furthermore, known as a citizen of genuine worth, loyal to the principles of honorable manhood and progressive citizenship. His death, therefore, was the occasion of deep regret to the many who were glad to call him friend. He was born in Botetourt county, Virginia, September 30, 1838, his parents being Lewis C. and Rebecca (Linkioker) Hunter. The Hunter family comes of Scotch-English ancestry and the grandfather, Francis Hunter, was a prosperous planter of Virginia. He was one of five broth-



R. P. HUNTER



ers who came to America and settled in that state. His son, Lewis C. Hunter, was born in the Old Dominion in 1799 and there resided until 1856, when he came to Iowa, settling in Marion county, where he followed farming throughout the remainder of his life, passing away January 29, 1879. His wife, also a native of Virginia, died in Marion county in August, 1882, and both were laid to rest there. In their family were five sons, of whom Rufus P. Hunter was the eldest. Joseph F., the second son, now deceased, served throughout the Civil war as a member of the Thirty-third Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Samuel L. is engaged in the milling and machinery business at Swan, Iowa. Edward died in his youth. Albert L., who completes the family, resides in Lincoln county, Kansas.

Rufus P. Hunter attended a private school in Virginia, acquainting himself with those branches of learning which usually constitute the public-school curriculum. He came with his parents to Iowa, making the trip by wagon, and remained under the parental roof until twenty-seven years of age. For about six years thereafter he engaged in farming in Marion county and subsequently came to Webster county, settling on the tract of land whereon his remaining days were passed. His farm was situated on section 26, Roland township, and was an unimproved tract when it came into his possession, but he converted the raw prairie into rich fields and developed an excellent farm property. He first built a small house and little stable, boarded the sides and covered it with a thatched roof. His first purchase comprised but eighty acres of land but to that he gradually added until his holdings embraced three hundred and sixty acres. On the farm he planted trees, erected excellent buildings and equipped his place with all modern conveniences and accessories. For many years he was engaged extensively in general farming and in the raising of thoroughbred stock, formerly making a specialty of horses and cattle but afterward giving his attention more largely to raising hogs. He also engaged in selling fruit trees and plants throughout this district and for three or four years conducted an implement business, having his headquarters on his farm. His sons are now engaged in the machinery business and also own and operate a threshing outfit.

In Marion county, Iowa, March 22, 1866, Mr. Hunter was married to Miss Rachel Metcalf, who was born in Kosciusko county, Indiana, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Heck) Met-

calf, both of whom were natives of that state. In 1854 they removed by wagon to Marion county, where their remaining days were spent, the father passing away March 3, 1887, at the age of seventy-one, and the mother September 19, 1866, at the age of fifty-nine. In their family were nine children: Isaac, Daniel, Morris, Franklin, John, James, Elizabeth, Mrs. Rachel Hunter and Mary. Mrs. Hunter was educated in the common schools and remained with her parents until her marriage. She became the mother of eight children: Elva Elen, who died in infancy; Charles V., who resides at Callender, Iowa, and married Betsey Osterson, by whom he has one child, Roy Harold; Warren D.; Mosier D., of Roland township, who married Emma Osterson and has four children, Ruby Frances, Earl, Ernest James and Russell; Oran O. and William W., who operate the home farm; Maude Pearl, who is a graduate of Tobin College of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and is the wife of William Croker, of Toston, Montana, by whom she has three children, Rachel Marie, Frances May and William Rufus; and Grover C., who in the spring of 1912, married Miss Cora Kingry and lives near the old home farm.

In politics Mr. Hunter was a democrat and served as justice of the peace for twelve years. He was ever much interested in educational affairs and for many years served as a member of the school board, acting as its president for sixteen years. Fraternally he was identified with the Woodmen of the World, belonging to Callender Lodge. He was also prominent in Masonic circles, holding membership in Gowrie Lodge, F. & A. M.; in the chapter and commandery at Fort Dodge; and in the Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Des Moines. All of his sons are members of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Knights of Pythias, and Warren Hunter is also identified with the Odd Fellows and the Masons.

Mr. Hunter may well have been called a self-made man, for he started out in life empty-handed and by his persistency and energy worked his way upward to a prominent place among the substantial farmers of Webster county. He merited well the success that came to him, for in all business transactions he held to the highest principles of honor and integrity. He was a man of generous impulses and never forgot the hospitable ways of the early pioneer. No one was ever turned from his door who sought aid or shelter. Throughout his life he was true to every duty, loyal to his country and devoted to his family and friends.

There was deep and sincere sorrow at his passing, when death called him on the 30th of June, 1912. Throughout his life he manifested elements and traits of character worthy of respect and the world is better for his having lived.

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### FRANK CRAIG, SR.

Frank Craig, Sr., is operating a coal mine near Kalo, in Otho township, and has won success by the practical application of his knowledge and experience. He has been a miner since the beginning of his active career and for many years worked in the employ of others before becoming an independent owner. He is today numbered among the successful men of his district and his prosperity is the natural result of his ability and specialized knowledge. Mr. Craig is a native of Wisconsin, having been born in this state in 1854, a son of Francis and Jane (Coulter) Craig, natives of England. The father came to America in 1850, settling in Wisconsin, where he engaged in mining, which had been his occupation in his native country. He was active in the Wisconsin lead mines but finally abandoned his connection with this industry in favor of general agricultural pursuits. He purchased land which he improved and operated for many years, gaining success and prosperity as a general farmer and retaining his connection with this occupation until his death, which occurred in 1894. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in 1858.

Frank Craig, Sr., was reared and educated in Wisconsin and when he laid aside his books immediately began working in the lead mines. It was in 1878 that he moved to Iowa, settling in Otho township, where he worked in the coal mines until 1887. In that year he returned to Wisconsin and operated his father's farm for nine years, after which he again came to Iowa and located at Kalo. Here he again engaged in mining, operating coal banks independently and is now opening up a new mine near his home.

In the fall of 1882 Mr. Craig was united in marriage to Miss Eva Todd, a daughter of John and Lucy (Shipley) Todd, and they became the parents of nine children, all of whom are living but Blanche, who passed away in January, 1898. The others are Pearl, Belva, William, Lucy, Frank, Jr., Myrtle, Elsie and Harold.

Politically Mr. Craig gives his allegiance to the democratic party and is one of the trustees of Otho township and at one time served as school director. He has a fine home in the village and some excellent town property, besides one hundred and four acres of land which he owns in partnership with William and George Lingard. He is prominent in the affairs of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He brings to the operation of his mining enterprises a practical equipment in the technical and mechanical details of the occupation, guided by business judgment and practical common sense. He has many friends in this section of Iowa, where his business ability is well known and where his personal qualities have gained for him the respect and esteem of all with whom he comes in contact.

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#### GEORGE R. PEARSONS.

George R. Pearsons was a prominent figure in the development of Fort Dodge along material, moral and social lines, and among his fellow townsmen no man was more honored and respected. He was one of the pioneer capitalists and land owners here and throughout the period of his residence in this city contributed largely to general development and progress while promoting individual interests. He was born August 7, 1830, at Bradford, Vermont, and came of a distinguished line of New England ancestry. The family homestead being at Bradford.

The youth of George R. Pearsons was passed on the old homestead. At the age of twenty he removed to Hartford, Vermont, where he later married Miss Wealthy Porter, a niece of Judge John Porter, of Quechee. Mrs. Pearsons' death in 1880 is still sorrowfully recalled by the older residents of Fort Dodge. They became the parents of four children, including Louise, the widow of Senator Jonathan P. Dolliver. In 1882 Mr. Pearsons married Miss L. W. Waldron, a talented and highly educated woman, who survives him.

While a resident of Vermont Mr. Pearsons spent several years in the employ of the Vermont Central Railroad Company and during much of his life was connected with railroad interests. Before his removal to the west he had filled such a variety of positions with the Vermont Central that he had thoroughly mastered the intricate details of railroading. In 1865 he was attracted to Illinois by the offer



GEORGE R. PEARSONS

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of employment as agent for the Illinois Central Railroad Company, with the management of its lands and properties, and from 1865 until 1868 he lived at Livingston, Illinois, devoting his time and energies to the duties of his position. His ability and practical knowledge in railroading were valuable assets to him at a later period in his career. This was demonstrated years afterward when with six other residents of Fort Dodge, all deeply interested in the progress of the city, he undertook to build, equip and operate the Fort Dodge & Fort Ridgely Railroad, which is now a part of the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad.

On his removal to Fort Dodge Mr. Pearsons entered upon a long and honorable career which made him prominent in that city, winning him recognition as one of its most conspicuous and representative men. He was closely associated with many activities here, of both a public and private character. Appreciative of his worth and ability his fellow townsmen several times called him to office and he was twice elected and served as mayor. His first term began in 1873 and he was again called to that position in 1890. For many years he was a member of the school board and was always a leader in any enterprise which sought to promote the material, social and religious welfare of the city. He passed away on the 14th of July, 1904, and his death deprived Fort Dodge and the state of Iowa of a distinguished and representative citizen.

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#### ERICK BLOOM.

A well cultivated and highly improved farm of two hundred and eighty acres located on section 8, Dayton township, pays tribute to the agricultural skill and efficient management of Erick Bloom, a substantial farmer and stockman of Webster county. His birth occurred in Estrichland, Sweden, on August 17, 1858, and there he was reared to the age of nine years. His parents, Erick and Bertha (Parrison) Bloom, were born, reared and married in Sweden, where the father followed the carpenter's and wagon maker's trades until 1867. In the latter year he emigrated to the United States with his family, locating two miles north of Ridgeport, Webster county, where he engaged in farming for two years. At the expiration of that time he rented some river land in Har-

din township, continuing his agricultural pursuits until he removed to Dayton. Here he passed away in 1881. The mother died seven years previously. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Bloom numbered five, of whom our subject is the eldest. The others, in order of birth, are as follows: Peter, a farmer in the vicinity of Bufford, North Dakota; Christine, the wife of Andrew Hayberg, a farmer in the vicinity of Barnum, Minnesota; Emma, who married Isaac Anderson of Burlington, Iowa; and Celia, the wife of Albert Whiteman, who is a farmer at Pine Bluffs, Wyoming.

Erick Bloom began his education in his native land and completed it in the district schools of Iowa. At the age of twelve years he became a wage earner, beginning as a farm hand, but later he worked in the coal mines at Lehigh for a time. Although he worked out in the summer he passed his winter months at home until he was twenty-four, when he began farming as a renter in Dayton township. He followed this for seven years, meeting with such lucrative returns that in March, 1891, he was able to buy two hundred and forty acres of land that formed the nucleus of his present homestead. The next year he removed to his farm and has ever since resided there. He is a most industrious man and energetically applies himself to anything he undertakes. As he directs his activities with intelligence and unusual foresight and sagacity he has prospered and has increased his holdings by the addition of another forty acres, his farm now embracing two hundred and forty acres of land, all of which is under cultivation and in a high state of productivity. In 1893, Mr. Bloom built his residence, which is a very comfortable and attractive farm house, and at various times he has installed such modern conveniences and appliances on his place as are consistent with the spirit of progress he has at all times manifested in his business. In connection with general farming he raises a good grade of stock which he feeds for market, and this is also proving a lucrative undertaking.

In 1886, Mr. Bloom was united in marriage to Miss Alice Dowd, a daughter of William V. and Clarissa Dowd, pioneers of Dayton township. The father, who was a native of Ohio, of Irish extraction, came to Iowa in 1854, locating in Madison county. The following year he came to Dayton, locating on a farm on section 21 of this township, where he resided until his death in June, 1900. The mother is still living and continues to reside on the

farm. She was a widow when she married Mr. Dowd, her first husband having been Albert Corbin. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dowd, of whom Mrs. Bloom is the eldest, the others are as follows: William W. and Clara F., twins, the former living at home with his mother and the latter the wife of Edward Putzke, a farmer living east of Dayton; and Amanda, the wife of William Chapman, a ditch, tile and cement contractor of Sac City, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Bloom have four children: William V., who is twenty-four, living at home and assisting his father with the work of the farm; Maude, who is twenty-two, also at home; Dorothy Iwana, who was born on January 8, 1908; and Violet Bernice, whose birth occurred on the 30th of December, 1910. The son, William V., is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Bloom is republican in his political views and has been a member of the district school board ever since he located here, more than twenty years ago. He is highly esteemed in the community, where he has ever manifested the highest integrity in his business transactions and has contributed his share in promoting its development and progress.

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### GEORGE WILLIAM FORTNEY.

George William Fortney, one of the representative and substantial agriculturists of Webster county, owns and operates a well improved farm of two hundred acres on sections 18 and 19, Otho township. His birth occurred in Georgetown, Wisconsin, on the 28th of October, 1865, his parents being David and Isabelle (Todd) Fortney, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of England. The paternal grandfather of our subject followed farming in Wisconsin and also worked in the lead mines of that state. His demise occurred at Bigpatch, Wisconsin. David Fortney accompanied his parents on their removal to Wisconsin in the '40s and in that state obtained his education and was reared to manhood. He assisted his father in the work of the home farm and subsequently embarked in the mercantile business at Georgetown, Wisconsin, conducting an establishment of that character there until 1868. In that year he came to Iowa and

took up a tract of land in Buena Vista county but soon abandoned the place and came to Webster county, believing that he could do better here. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on the present site of the town of Otho, paying twelve dollars an acre for the property. He improved the same and was engaged in its operation until 1887, when he rented it to his sons. During the remaining years of his life he conducted a general store, devoted considerable attention to live-stock interests and also did an extensive grain business. His demise occurred on the 17th of January, 1901, after a residence of almost a third of a century in this county, and the community lost one of its most respected and enterprising citizens. His wife was called to her final rest November 23, 1901.

George William Fortney, who was the third in order of birth of twelve children, obtained his education in Webster county and was here reared to manhood. When a youth of fifteen he took charge of his father's farm, operating the same until 1893. During the following year he operated a ditching machine and then spent a year in cultivating the McBain farm in Elkhorn township, which he rented. Subsequently he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pocahontas county, Iowa, operating it for two years and then leasing the property and returning to Otho. In 1899 he disposed of the tract and bought the old home farm in Otho township as well as an additional tract of forty-eight acres. The house in which he now resides was erected by his father but he has improved and remodeled the same considerably. His landed holdings embrace about two hundred acres of farm property on sections 18 and 19 and about six acres laid out in town lots. In the cultivation and improvement of his property he has been engaged during the past thirteen years, and the success which has attended his efforts as an agriculturist is the merited reward of industry, energy and good management. He owns an interest in a farm near Livermore and also in one, four miles west of Badger, holding the deed to both properties. He was, formerly, a stockholder in the Fort Dodge Pump Company and also in the Farmers Elevator Company of Otho, acting as president and director of the latter.

On the 28th of November, 1887, Mr. Fortney was married to Miss Martha Philips, a daughter of Oliver and Mary (Robinson) Philips, both of whom were born in Syracuse, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Fortney have four children, as follows: Grace, the wife

of Guy Rake, a telegraph operator living in Wibaux, Montana; Arthur, who married Maud Schnurr and resides on a farm in Otho township, Webster county; Florence, the wife of Stephen Woodbury, who resides on a farm in Otho township; and Clyde, who is at home.

George William Fortney votes the prohibition ticket, believing that the liquor traffic is one of the worst evils with which this country has to contend. He has served as trustee of Otho township and also acted in the capacity of justice of the peace, discharging his duties in both connections in a highly commendable and satisfactory manner. Fraternally, he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. His wife is a member of the Royal Neighbors. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church, to which his wife and children also belong. He possesses those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime win confidence, respect and good-will, and by the consensus of public opinion he is accorded a prominent place among the valued citizens of Otho township.

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#### PROFESSOR CHARLES V. FINDLAY.

Professor Charles V. Findlay is a member of the firm of Monk & Findlay, proprietors of Tobin College, at Fort Dodge. Throughout his life he has been connected with educational interests and has made that institution, of which he is now president, one of the strong educational centers of the middle west, holding to high standards at all times. He was born in De Kalb county, Illinois, September 12, 1866, and is a son of James A. and Olive F. (Goodyear) Findlay, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Ohio. The paternal grandfather, James Findlay, was a native of Scotland and made farming his life work. He came to America as a member of the British army in the War of 1812. His wife was Deborah (Allen) Findlay and they were early settlers of De Kalb county, Illinois, with the development of which they were actively identified. They died there when well advanced in years, having in the meantime reared a large family comprising James, Margaret, Lavina, Mary, George and Orin. The maternal grandfather of Professor Findlay was Lloyd Goodyear, who married Mary Lepper. Both were born

and reared in New York, but after their marriage moved to Ohio. From there they came westward to Illinois and settled in De Kalb county, where they passed away at an advanced age. In their family were eight children, Henry, Almira, Nelson, John, William, Franklin, Olive and James.

James A. Findlay was reared in the Green Mountain state and there learned the carpenter's and joiner's trades. He made his way westward to Illinois prior to the Civil war, settling near Paw Paw, in De Kalb county, where he engaged in carpentering. In 1871 he came to Iowa, taking up his abode in Clay county, where he secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he cultivated and improved for a number of years. In 1877 he removed to Webster county, settling in Otho township, where he purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres. This he also improved, greatly enhancing the fertility of the fields, and the place is still in the possession of the family. The father, however, has retired, removing to Fort Dodge, where he and his wife have now lived for about fourteen years. He held various township offices and has been prominent locally, his efforts being a potent factor in general development and improvement. To him and his wife were born three sons: George F., born October 23, 1864, deceased; Charles V., born September 12, 1866; and J. Lloyd, born August 5, 1868, a resident of Otho township.

Professor Findlay was about five years of age when brought to Iowa and upon his father's farm in Webster county he was reared, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district school and supplemented his preliminary education by a course in the normal school at Shenandoah, Iowa. He taught both previous and subsequent to that period and later entered the Highland Park College, from which he was graduated in 1891. From the beginning he demonstrated his ability as an educator and in the year of his graduation he was elected county superintendent of schools of Webster county, to which position he was several times reelected, serving in all for four terms or eight years. Since then he has been continuously engaged in college work, being connected with Tobin College, an incorporated institution of which he is the president. This school has an enrollment in all of its departments of about five hundred students. Excellent work is being done under able educators, for a high standard is maintained

in the personnel of the school, in the curriculum and in the methods of instruction.

On June 29, 1899, Mr. Findlay was married to Miss Mabel Southwick, the daughter of Franklin B. and Cornelia (Sheffield) Southwick. She was born at Wells, Minnesota, while her parents were natives of Wisconsin and are now living at Santa Barbara, California. Of their children, two are living: Mrs. Findlay; and Mrs. Eva (Southwick) Walden, of Santa Paula, California. Professor and Mrs. Findlay have two sons: James Franklin, born July 25, 1900; and Maurice Southwick, born January 29, 1907. Professor Findlay is a member of the Congregational church and his wife of the Church of God. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and in 1910 and 1911 he served as a member of the city council, but otherwise has never sought nor desired public office outside of the strict path of his profession. He has all of the qualifications of an able educator, is a good disciplinarian, possesses executive force and administrative direction, and at the same time imparts readily and concisely to others the knowledge which he has acquired. He has made the school a part of the city and one which has had commendable influence in the educational interests and the development of this part of the state.

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#### WILLIAM MURRY WILDMAN, M. D.

Dr. William Murry Wildman has become recognized as a highly efficient representative of the medical profession during the six years of his practice in Fort Dodge. His birth occurred in Hardin county, this state, on the 12th of December, 1874, his parents being William and Asenath (Adams) Wildman. The father, who was born in Clinton county, Ohio, on the 30th of March, 1847, came to Iowa with his parents, Seneca and Jane (Hadley) Wildman, who located on a farm in the vicinity of Iowa Falls, Hardin county, in 1859. There he met and subsequently married Miss Adams, a direct descendant of John and John Quincy Adams. The mother was born in Yadkin county, North Carolina, and is a daughter of Joel Adams. For many years Mr. Wildman was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Hardin county, but he retired from active work fifteen years ago, and now he and the mother are living in Falacios, Texas.

Dr. Wildman was reared on the farm where he was born, and attended the district schools of Hardin county until he was a youth of seventeen years. His parents were of Quaker extraction and have always adhered to that faith, so in 1891 he was sent to New Providence Academy at New Providence, Iowa. He completed the course there at the age of eighteen, and then entered Penn College, also a Quaker institution, at Oskaloosa. He left college in 1895 and taught in a district school in the vicinity of his home for a year. At the expiration of that period he resumed his studies, and was graduated in 1897 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He subsequently engaged in the mercantile business in Eldora, Hardin county, until the spring of 1903. In the fall of that year he went to Iowa City, this state, and matriculated in the medical department of the Iowa State University, taking the homeopathic course. He was awarded the degree of M. D. on the 13th of June, 1906, and the following day he came to Fort Dodge and opened an office at 516½ Central avenue. He was located there for two years, but when the First National Bank building was completed in 1908 he removed to his present quarters, being one of the first tenants in the building. He has a very pleasant and appropriately furnished suite, at No. 406, and through his general capability and efficiency has succeeded in building up an excellent practice. Dr. Wildman is in every way highly qualified for the profession he has adopted, as he has many times manifested since locating here. He is a man of pleasing personality, resourceful and confident and is most conscientious in his devotion to the interests of his patients.

Eldora, Iowa, was the scene of Dr. Wildman's marriage on the 23d of May, 1901, to Miss Saidie Polley, a daughter of Joseph and Florence (Sheets) Polley, both deceased. The father was for many years engaged in farming in Hardin county, but in 1900 he retired to Eldora, and there he passed away in 1903. One child has been born to Dr. and Mrs. Wildman, Ruth Irene, whose birth occurred on the 9th of December, 1902. She is now a student of the Lincoln school, this city.

Dr. Wildman is a member of the Quaker church of Hardin county, and Mrs. Wildman belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church of Eldora. Fraternally, he is affiliated with Fort Dodge Lodge, No. 248, A. O. U. W., and is grand medical examiner of this order for the state of Iowa. He also belongs to Fort Dodge Lodge, No. 306, B. P. O. E.; and Choctaw Tribe, No. 47, I. O. R.,

also of Fort Dodge. He maintains relations with his fellow practitioners through the medium of his connection with the Webster County Medical Society and the Iowa State and American Medical Associations. In politics he is a progressive republican and served for two years as health officer of Fort Dodge. Dr. Wildman has been very successful and in addition to his other interests has a very attractive home at 1328 Fifth avenue, North. He is a man of many admirable traits of character and is popular and highly esteemed both by the profession and laity and enjoys the confidence and regard of a large circle of friends.

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### MARY J. STEVENS.

One of the most efficient business women of Webster county is Mary J. Stevens, who owns and successfully operates a farm located on section 13 of Douglas township, which was previously the property of her father. She is a native of New England, her birth having occurred in Richmond, Vermont, on the 19th of July, 1840, and a daughter of Socrates Greenleaf and Harriet (Jones) Stevens. The father was born in Henderson, Jefferson county, New York, on the 29th of April, 1811, but he was reared and educated in the state of Vermont. There he also learned the machinist's trade, which he followed for about three years and then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. On the 13th of September, 1835, he was married to Miss Jones, who was born in Colchester, Vermont, on the 12th of August, 1812. They passed the early period of their domestic life in the Green Mountain state, coming from there to Iowa in 1856. They first located in Oskaloosa, but after a year's residence there they removed to Webster county, and here the father acquired the farm, now owned by our subject. This property, which is located west of the Des Moines river, was entirely uncultivated when it came into Mr. Stevens' possession, and he diligently devoted the remainder of his active life to its development and improvement. Here both parents passed away, the mother's death occurring on the 2d of May, 1888, and that of the father on the 14th of January, 1901. They were adherents of the Universalist faith, and his political support Mr. Stevens accorded to the democratic party.

Miss Stevens was a girl of fifteen years when she accompanied her parents on their removal to Iowa, where she has ever since made her home. Her education was begun in the schools of her native state and completed in Oskaloosa. After they removed to Webster county she engaged in teaching, following this profession for twenty-two terms. Her services then being required at home, she gave up her work and devoted herself to her parents during the remainder of their lives. She is a woman of more than average capability, and has a thorough understanding of farming and stock-raising, as is substantially evidenced by the appearance of her well kept fields and the condition of her stock. She exercises intelligence and good judgment in the direction of her interests and has prospered in her undertakings. The place is provided with an adequate equipment, the barns and outbuildings are substantially constructed and in good repair, while in 1906 she replaced the old farm house with a modern residence, which is one of the largest and finest in the county. Her present mode of living is in violent contrast to that of her girlhood, which was passed on the same farm but amid pioneer conditions, while she is now surrounded by all the comforts and conveniences of a modern civilization. Miss Stevens attends the various churches but has never identified herself with any one denomination. She has always been keenly interested in intellectual pursuits and keeps closely in touch with the trend of the times, being thoroughly informed on all current topics, on which she has well defined views.

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### ARCHIE D. McQUILKIN.

Archie D. McQuilkin has for the past ten years been successfully engaged in business at Fort Dodge as a dealer in furniture, carpets, drapery and queensware, and his establishment at No. 817 Central avenue is artistic and attractive throughout. His birth occurred in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, on the 13th of January, 1864, his parents being Samuel and Ann Eleanor (Kerr) McQuilkin, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. His paternal grandparents were Robert R. and Jane (Richey) McQuilkin.

Samuel McQuilkin, the father of our subject, was reared in Pennsylvania and followed farming throughout his active career. In 1866 he came west to Iowa, locating in Benton county, where he continued to reside until called to his final rest in 1878. He was widely recognized as a substantial and esteemed citizen of his community and ably served in the capacity of justice of the peace. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian. His widow, who is still living at the age of eighty-nine years, also belongs to that church. To them were born eleven children, six sons and five daughters, eight of whom grew to maturity, namely: Joseph K., who is a resident of Waterloo, Iowa; Robert R., living in Laporte City, Iowa; Andrew, who has passed away; Belle, the wife of L. D. Woodley, of Galt, Iowa; James L., who is deceased; Nanna, the wife of John Willmore, of Fort Dodge; Ella, who is deceased; and Archie D., of this review.

The last named was but two years of age when his parents removed to Benton county, this state, and there attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education. When about fifteen years of age he left the home farm and began clerking in a drug store at Laporte City, being thus employed for eighteen months, while subsequently he conducted a meat market there for four years. On the expiration of that period he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for a publishing concern, covering Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois. Later he embarked in business at Burlington, Iowa, as a dealer in furniture, jewelry, carpets and queensware, there conducting an establishment of that character for eleven years. In 1902 he came to Fort Dodge and, as above stated, has remained in business here to the present time. His store, comprising several floors, has forty-four thousand feet floor space or over an acre and is crowded with one of the most extensive and finest assortments of furniture, carpets, rugs, pictures and chinaware to be found in the state of Iowa. Mr. McQuilkin is accorded a large and well merited patronage, for he is a man of splendid business ability and keen discernment. He carries an attractive and artistic line of goods at reasonable prices and does everything in his power to please and satisfy his customers.

On the 17th of June, 1889, Mr. McQuilkin was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Kline, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Elisha and Sarah Kline, who were likewise born in that state. They became early settlers of Blackhawk county, Iowa,

and there spent the remainder of their lives. Elisha Kline and his oldest son, Alonzo, participated in the Civil war. Mrs. McQuilkin was one of a family of two daughters and five sons, the others being as follows: Alonzo, Willis, Albert, William, Boyd and Mariette, who died in infancy. To Mr. and Mrs. McQuilkin have been born three children: Merope, who died at the age of two months; Marion, who passed away when two years old; and Marjorie, who is now twelve years of age.

In his political views Mr. McQuilkin is republican, while fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church, to which his wife also belongs and of which he is serving as president of the board of trustees. Through his enterprise he has won success in business and through his fidelity to upright principles he has commanded the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

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### MICHAEL F. HEALY

Michael F. Healy, a Harvard man and also an alumnus of Michigan University, brought to the starting point of his career certain rare gifts including a strong personality, an excellent presence and marked strength of character. These, combined with a thorough grasp of the law and the ability to correctly apply its principles, have been the factors in his effectiveness as an advocate. He is now practicing as a member of the firm of Healy & Healy, with offices at No. 620½ Central avenue, Fort Dodge. He is a native of Lansing, Iowa, born April 1, 1863, and comes of Irish ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Michael Healy, died in Ireland in 1845 when fifty-six years of age. His wife, Mrs. Eleanor Healy, afterward came to America and passed away in Lansing, Iowa, at the very advanced age of eighty-nine years. In their family were five children, Michael, Thomas F., Hannah Daley, Mary Sullivan and Nanna. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Healy became the wife of James Hinchon, and they had three children, Cornelius, John W. and Julia McGuough.

The eldest child of the first marriage was Michael Healy, the father of Michael F. Healy, of this review. He was born in County Cork, Ireland, and left there when a boy of fifteen or sixteen years. Crossing the Atlantic he settled first in Massachusetts, working in the



M. F. HEALY



mills there for a time, but on the 1st of January, 1850, he enlisted for service in the regular United States army, with which he remained for five years. On the 14th of March, 1855, he wedded Catharine Murphy, who was also a native of County Cork, and a daughter of Patrick and Mary (McCarty) Murphy. Mr. Murphy was a farmer by occupation and both he and his wife lived to old age. Their children were: Sarah Stuart, of Newton, Massachusetts; Ellen Murphy; Hannah Taggart; Elizabeth McNamara; Patrick Murphy; and Catharine.

Following their marriage Michael and Catharine (Murphy) Healy removed westward to Allamakee county, Iowa, where he followed farming for eight years and also served as county treasurer for four years. He then turned his attention to merchandising at Lansing, Iowa, and conducted his store until 1882, when he removed to Fort Dodge, where he engaged in the agricultural implement business for several years. In the meantime he purchased four hundred and eighty acres of land in Webster county in 1868. His judicious investments and his business activity brought him a substantial measure of success and after retiring from the implement business he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest to the time of his death, which occurred June 3, 1910, when he was eighty-four years of age. His wife passed away June 5, 1908, when seventy-four years of age. Both were loyal members of the Catholic church. They had a family of nine children: Ella, who is the widow of Matthew Joyce; Mary, the widow of P. H. Vaughan; Anna; Michael F.; Thomas D., who died January 15, 1910; William M.; Elizabeth, who is in a convent in Philadelphia, engaged in the Drexel educational work of educating the negroes; Robert, a partner of Michael; and Catharine.

Michael F. Healy was reared in Lansing, Iowa, until nineteen years of age, and has since lived in Fort Dodge. He was a pupil in the public schools of his native city and in Notre Dame University at South Bend, Indiana, before entering Harvard University. His preparation for the bar was made as a student in the law department of the University of Michigan and he was admitted to the bar on the 1st of October, 1885. He at once opened an office in Fort Dodge, where he has since remained in active practice. He throws himself easily and naturally into an argument with the self-possession and deliberation which indicates no straining after effect. There is a precision and clearness in his statement, a quietness and strength in his argument which speak a mind trained in the severest school of investigation, and to which the closest reasoning is habitual and easy.

On the 30th of June, 1891, Mr. Healy was married to Miss Mary E. Kerndt, a daughter of Moritz and Mary (Nimsgern) Kerndt, of Lansing, Iowa. Mrs. Healy was born in that town while her father was a native of Saxony, Germany, and her mother of Alsace Lorraine. In 1856 they established their home in Lansing, where they still reside. In their family were eight children, Gustav M., Charles M., William M., Mary E., Clara M., Anna, Moritz and Catharine. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Healy were Mr. and Mrs. John Christian Kerndt. The former died in Germany and the latter in Lansing. They had a large family, including Herman, Gustav, William, Moritz, Julius, Clara, Haas, Emma Boeckh, and Mrs. Rieth. The children of the maternal grandfather were five in number: Mary Kerndt, Anna Kennedy, Emma Stowers, Mrs. Wuest, and Anna Urnersbach.

Mr. and Mrs. Healy have six children, Kerndt M., Thomas M., Ruth, Margaret, Eleanor and Catharine. The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Healy belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Arcanum, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Sons of Herman. In politics he is an earnest democrat and is a recognized leader of the party, having served as chairman of the democratic state central committee in 1896 and 1897, yet he has never sought nor desired office for himself, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his professional duties whereby the firm of Healy & Healy has become one of the leading law firms of Fort Dodge.

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#### PETER M. MITCHELL.

One of the foremost business men of Fort Dodge a decade ago was the late Peter M. Mitchell, founder of The Mitchell Implement Company, a thriving enterprise of the city, which stands as a monument to his unceasing diligence and energy. He was born at Marseilles, La Salle county, Illinois, on April 9, 1853, a son of Patrick and Anne (Kennedy) Mitchell. The father was a native of County Galway, Ireland, whence he emigrated to the United States with his family in the late '40s. He located in La Salle county, Illinois, and engaged in farming until 1855, when he removed to Webster county, Iowa, and resumed his agricultural pursuits in Badger township. His efforts met with good financial

returns and he subsequently retired to Fort Dodge, where he was living at the time of his death. The mother is still living and now makes her home at 425 North Ninth street, this city.

Peter M. Mitchell was only a child of two years when his parents removed to Iowa and here he passed the remainder of his life. He began his education in the district schools of Badger township and continued it in Fort Dodge high school, after which he became a student at Ames College, Ames, Iowa. He was soon compelled to leave college, owing to the state of his health, and for ten years thereafter engaged in teaching in Webster county. In 1882 he withdrew from this occupation and went into the implement business with Clemmon L. Granger, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Their store was located on the public square in the building now occupied by the Granger Company. They were associated together for fifteen years, but at the expiration of that time, Mr. Mitchell withdrew from the business and founded The Mitchell Implement Company. This is a wholesale and retail establishment and is located at 601 to 611 First avenue, South. It has prospered from its incipency and is now ranked as one of the leading implement stores of the city, the controlling interest in the business still being in the possession of Mr. Mitchell's heirs. He was president and manager of the company until the time of his death, and as he was a man of progressive methods, foresight and sagacity in the conduct of this enterprise he adopted a policy which commended him to the confidence of all with whom he had transactions and won him the cooperation of his patrons. In addition to his interest in this corporation, he had acquired quite extensive and valuable real-estate holdings in Webster and adjoining counties of northwestern Iowa, and he was a stockholder in several local enterprises, among them the Fort Dodge Light & Power Company, the Oleson Land Company, the Mineral City Park Association, the Iowa Land & Loan Company, and the First National Bank, all highly reputable and prosperous business enterprises.

In Fort Dodge, on the 21st of January, 1884, Mr. Mitchell was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Furlong, a daughter of Richard and Anna S. (Ryan) Furlong. The parents were both natives of Maine but of Irish extraction. Mrs. Furlong's grandfather was born in Nova Scotia and her ancestors participated in the War of 1812. They were among the pioneer settlers of Webster county, where for a time Mr. Furlong engaged in farming. Later

he withdrew from this occupation and coming to Fort Dodge opened a general mercantile store. He subsequently became associated with J. M. Mulroney in the conduct of this establishment, but after they dissolved partnership, Mr. Furlong located at 11 to 13 North Fifth street, the site now occupied by Furlong & Brennan, where he continued in business until his death in 1892. Mr. Furlong was twice married, his second union being with Miss Nora Moriarity, of Dubuque, Iowa, who died in 1899. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, as follows: Marcia, who has been teaching in Minnesota, now at home; Anne, a former teacher in a private school in Washington, D. C., and now connected with the public library at Fort Dodge; Richard, who graduated from the law department of the Iowa State University with the class of 1912; Alice, who is attending school in Milwaukee; Granger, a member of the class of 1912 of Fort Dodge high school; and Katharine, also a student of the high school.

The family are all communicants of the Roman Catholic church, as was likewise the father, and belong to Corpus Christi parish. Mr. Mitchell was a member of Fort Dodge Lodge, No. 306, B. P. O. E., and his political support he gave to the democratic party. He was always an active and earnest worker on behalf of his party and took a prominent part in local campaigns. He held a prominent position in the community and was numbered among the foremost representatives of the commercial fraternity of the city, in the progress and development of which he was one of the dominant factors.

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### JOHN A. LINDBERG.

John A. Lindberg, president of the Farmers State Bank of Dayton, has for many years been numbered among the foremost business men of Webster county, while he has occupied an equally prominent position in the public life of the community. He was born in Victoria, Knox county, Illinois, on the 29th of December, 1850, and is a son of John and Christine (Aaronson) Lindberg. The parents were both natives of Sweden, the father having been born in 1815 and the mother in 1819, and there they were also reared and married. John Lindberg entered the service of his country in his early manhood, but as the future seemed to promise

little or nothing in Sweden and he had heard wonderful stories of the possibilities afforded in America, he obtained a substitute and withdrew from the army at the end of five years. Together with his wife and family he emigrated to the United States in 1849, sixteen weeks having been spent on the water before they dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. They made their way inland to Victoria, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming until 1856. In October of that year the family again started westward, Webster county being their destination on this occasion. The father first settled on what was supposed to be government land but later proved to be river land in Hardin township. In 1857 he preempted a quarter section, which he cultivated until 1877, when he removed to a farm three miles east of Fort Dodge. The parents continued to reside there until 1881, when they went to Badger and made their home with a daughter, Mrs. P. A. Houge. There the father passed away in 1893. He was survived by the mother, whose death occurred six months later. The paternal grandfather of our subject was John Mood, who was in the volunteer service of the King of Sweden, for twenty-four years, having entered the army immediately after attaining his majority and having remained in the service until he had reached the age limit, forty-five years.

John A. Lindberg, who was a lad of six years when his parents removed to Iowa, began his education in the district schools near Boonesboro, Boone county, Iowa. After graduating from the high school in the latter place he matriculated in the law department of the Iowa State University at Iowa City, from which institution he was granted the degree of LL. B. with the class of 1871. He was admitted to the bar immediately after attaining his majority but has never practiced. After leaving the university he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, with which he had been familiar from early boyhood, and for two years thereafter devoted his entire time and energies to farming, three miles east of Fort Dodge. In 1880 he came to Dayton and purchased the "Dayton Review," a weekly newspaper which had been established here the year previously. Mr. Lindberg edited this journal for ten years, and during that period developed it into one of the best papers in the county. As he is a public-spirited man, of progressive ideas and enterprising methods he made it a prominent factor in the development not only of the town, but of the entire section. It was a clean, wholesome sheet,

noticeably free from scurrilous attacks on the candidates of the opposing party during political campaigns, while its columns were always used to defend the weak or champion any good or worthy cause. In 1890, Mr. Lindberg sold his paper to J. G. Durrel and withdrawing from the field of journalism engaged in the real-estate and insurance business with August Lillyard. Three years later, together with several other local business men, he organized the Farmers State Bank, of which he has ever since been president. They incorporated the institution for twenty-five thousand dollars, but they have since increased their capital stock to forty thousand dollars, and have a ten thousand dollar surplus. It has always been conducted in strict accordance with a most conservative policy, and as a result it has developed into one of the thriving and substantial financial institutions of the county. The officials are all men of recognized standing and unquestionable integrity, who are well known in local business circles. C. J. Swanstrom is vice president; E. M. Lundeen, cashier; and D. J. Christensen, assistant cashier, while the directors are as follows: C. A. Lundblad, S. A. Burnquist; B. B. Charles Staymen; G. S. Ringland; and John Blomberg. In addition to this connection with the bank Mr. Lindberg is identified with the fire and life insurance business, in which he has met with excellent success.

On the 7th of June, 1874, Mr. Lindberg was married to Miss Amelia A. Brundien, who was born at Victoria, Knox county, Illinois, on the 2d of October, 1852. She is a daughter of William and Ellen Brundien, both natives of Sweden, whence they emigrated to the United States in 1848. Upon their arrival in this country they located at Bishop's Hill, Illinois, where they were subsequently married. In 1857 they came to Iowa, settling in Dayton. Here the father passed away in 1862 but the mother survived him for many years, her death occurring in 1905. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lindberg, both of whom have made highly creditable records in business and public life. Clarence J., the elder, who was in the government service and spent a year in Cuba during the Spanish-American war, having been a member of the first United States pack train that left San Antonio, Texas, owns and operates a large cotton plantation at Edna, Jackson county, Texas. He married Miss Luna Dedmon, of Texas, and they have one son, the only grandchild, who was christened John W., but is called "Billy." Arthur C., the younger

son, is now serving as county treasurer of Webster county. He was for several years assistant cashier in the Farmers State Bank of Dayton, and subsequently served for four years as deputy county treasurer under Peter Hadley.

Mr. Lindberg's views in religious matters coincide with the principles of the Unitarian faith and he is affiliated with the American Unitarian Association. He is a Mason and also belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, while in politics he is a staunch republican. During the long period of his residence in Dayton, Mr. Lindberg has always been one of the leaders in municipal affairs, and for twenty years he served in the town council. In 1878 he was elected justice of the peace in Dayton township and has continuously discharged the duties of this office since that time, a period of thirty-four years. He has several times filled the mayor's chair, while he was postmaster under both President Garfield and President Harrison, and for several years he was a member of the school board. He was once nominated for county clerk, but was defeated by a heavy democratic majority. Mr. Lindberg is one of the highly esteemed citizens not only of Dayton but of Webster county, where he has established an enviable reputation, his career both as a business man and a public official being noticeably free from any imputation that could reflect upon his character. He is a man who would be an acquisition to any community because of his high standards of citizenship, progressive spirit and disinterested helpfulness in all matters pertaining to the common welfare.

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#### CHARLES C. KNUDSON.

Charles C. Knudson is the proprietor of the only general store in Badger, keeping a full and up-to-date line of merchandise and operating his establishment in an up-to-date and progressive way. He is interested in local business expansion aside from his activities as a merchant and holds stock in various other enterprises, being public-spirited to a marked degree and an active factor in the development of the section in which he was born. Mr. Knudson's birth occurred in Badger township, September 30, 1872, and he is a son of Christ and Anna (Arent) Knudson, natives of Norway. The father emigrated to America in 1860 and subsequently located on a farm in Badger township in 1868, com-

ing to this section from Illinois, where he had settled upon his arrival in America. He enlisted in Henshaw's Battery and served for four years in the Civil war, returning to Illinois after the close of hostilities. In that state he was married and there farmed for two years before eventually locating in Badger township. Here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land which he improved and cultivated for a number of years, adding to his holdings from time to time until he at length possessed nine hundred and sixty acres and was among the most extensive land-owners in the section. He was engaged in general agricultural pursuits upon this property for thirty-six years and then retired from active life, moving to the town of Badger, where he has since resided. He is one of the leading and important citizens of the section, is vice president of the Badger Savings Bank and still owns four hundred and eighty acres of fertile and productive land in Webster county.

Charles Knudson was reared at home and received his early education in the public schools of Badger township, completing his studies at Highland Park College of Des Moines. He later attended Tobin College at Fort Dodge, graduating from that institution with the class of 1896. After laying aside his books he accepted a position in the employ of the Peavey Elevator Company, working first at Badger and then at Lake Mills, Iowa. After two years he went to Fort Dodge, where he clerked in a shoe store conducted by a Mr. Rudesill for a similar period of time, returning finally to his native section, where he established himself in the mercantile business. He was successful from the beginning and his prosperity has come as a natural result of his industry and ability. Owing to a recent fire in the business section of the village Mr. Knudson is the proprietor of the only general store. He carries a large and varied stock of goods and owns the building in which he conducts his business. He is one of the leading and prominent merchants in Badger, operating his enterprise along modern lines and interested in the general growth and welfare. He is one of the officers of the Badger Telephone Company, is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Badger, and is also a stockholder in the Corn Belt Packing Company of Fort Dodge.

In May, 1896, Mr. Knudson was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Williams, a daughter of Michael and Mary (Reilly) Williams. To their union have been born two children: Charles

A., who is eight years old; and Robert A., aged three. Mr. Knudson is a progressive republican and is serving as president of the school board. He is a member of the town council, has served since January 3, 1907, as postmaster of the village, and is doing able and effective work in local politics. He belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, holding his membership in the Fort Dodge lodge, and is a devout adherent of the Lutheran church. Mr. Knudson devotes most of his time to the management of his store and to the operation of his other affairs, which are ably conducted, making him one of the leading business men in Badger.

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#### AMBROSE R. WRIGHT.

Ambrose R. Wright is a retired farmer, living at the corner of Fourth avenue and Fifteenth street in Fort Dodge. The eighty-three years of his life record present many admirable and substantial qualities of manhood and of citizenship and he has ever enjoyed the high regard and confidence of those with whom he associated. He was born in Sullivan, Sullivan county, New York, September 30, 1829. His grandfather, Samuel Wright, served his country as a soldier in the Revolutionary war and in days of peace followed farming for many years in Sullivan county, New York. He had three sons, Samuel, Daniel and John. The first named was reared in Sullivan county and became a farmer, hunter and trapper. He was sent for by farmers miles distant from his place of abode to catch wolves that were killing sheep and he received thirty dollars bounty per head. He always kept two guns and was a remarkably accurate shot. He had several encounters with wild animals, as thrilling as any tale of fiction. At one time his clothing was all torn from his body by a bear, which he killed with a club after an exciting battle, managing to escape with his own life. He had wounded the bear with squirrel shot, and this only angered the animal, which then attacked him. He was well advanced in years when he went to Indiana to visit two sisters who were living there. That winter he proceeded to Wisconsin on a hunting and trapping expedition and had exciting times with the Indians, who would steal his game from the traps. Later he returned to New York, where he died about 1852, when sixty-

two years of age. In early manhood he married Frances Curry, also a native of the Empire state and a daughter of Stephen and Anna Curry, who were likewise born in New York, where her father followed the occupation of farming. He lived to the very remarkable old age of one hundred and two years. In his family were seven children, Thomas, Frances, John, William, Stephen, James and another daughter. Of these Frances became Mrs. Wright and, surviving her husband for a number of years, she passed away in 1865, at the age of seventy-three. Both were consistent Christian people, holding membership in the Methodist church. Their children were eight in number, six of whom reached years of maturity: Thomas; Stephen; Anna, who married Henry Denman; Daniel; Ambrose R.; and Tamar, who became the wife of Morgan Hornbeck.

Ambrose R. Wright was reared in Sullivan county, New York, early becoming familiar with all the experiences that fall to the lot of the farm lad. His education was largely acquired in one of the old-time log schoolhouses, furnished with slab seats, which were supposed to have been planed off but an occasional hemlock sliver would make the small boy realize that he was not sitting on a polished board. The farmers in the neighborhood contributed the fuel, taking turns in hauling wood for the fires, and the school boys would have to chop it. Some times the children would take the benches outside and put them along in a row in order to make a slide, which furnished amusement during the recess period.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Ambrose Wright in his boyhood and youth. On the 2d of January, 1850, however, he made arrangements for having a home of his own through his marriage to Miss Diana Bowers, a daughter of Palmer Bowers. In July, 1907, when in her seventy-sixth year she passed away in the faith of the Presbyterian church, of which she was a devoted member. She was born in Sullivan county, New York, in 1832 and her parents were also natives of that state, while her paternal grandfather was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. To Mr. and Mrs. Wright were born eleven children: Frances; Silas; Edgar; Alice; Viola; Leone; Annie; Dr. Oscar Wright, who resides in Dakota; Dr. Clark, deceased, formerly of El Paso, Texas; Earl; and one, who died in infancy. There are also over thirty grandchildren and a number of great-grandchildren.

Following his marriage Mr. Wright continued to reside in the Empire state until 1877, when he came to Iowa and settled on a homestead about ten miles west of Fort Dodge, securing a claim of eighty acres. He afterward bought and sold land and at one time was the owner of four hundred acres. After carrying on farming for twenty-eight years in Webster county he took up his abode in Fort Dodge, where he has since lived, and here he built three houses, which he still owns and which bring him a good income. Although past eighty-three years of age, he is well preserved, possessing all of his faculties, and is quite active for one of his years. He began life a poor boy, without assistance, and has since made his own way in the world. He and his estimable wife experienced and endured the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life but met all uncomplainingly, traveling life's journey happily together and sharing each other's joys and sorrows. It was their aim to set before their children a good example, to live peaceably with all men and to do unto others as they would be done by. The noble qualities of his nature have won for Mr. Wright the high regard and friendship of all with whom he has come into contact. He is one of the worthy old settlers of the county and it is with pleasure that we present his record to our readers.

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#### WALTER POWERS.

One of the most attractive properties of Douglas township is the two hundred acre farm of Walter Powers, whose capably directed energies have ranked him among the representative agriculturists of Webster county. Although the greater part of his life has been passed in the west, he is a son of New England, his birth having occurred in Maine in July, 1842. His father, Steven Powers, was a native of the same state, while the mother, whose maiden name was Mary Colwell, was born in Pennsylvania. Their family numbered three sons and two daughters, all of whom lived to attain maturity. Mr. and Mrs. Powers made their home in Maine until the spring of 1856, when they removed to Iowa with their family, locating in Webster county. Here the father, whose energies were always devoted to farming, bought three hundred and twenty acres of land. It was entirely without

improvements and had never been even broken, but with the persistent diligence characteristic of the New Englander he soon had erected the necessary buildings for the comfort of himself and family and then applied himself to the plowing of his fields. He later increased his holdings by the purchase of an adjoining tract of two hundred acres, all of which had been placed under cultivation and had been converted into a well improved farm before he passed away in 1880. He was survived by the mother, whose death occurred in 1900.

The life of Walter Powers has not been unusual in any respect, but is that of the average man whose years are passed in the country. When old enough to begin his education he entered the district schools of his native state, which he attended until he came to Iowa with his parents. As he was only fourteen years of age when the family located in Webster county, he here resumed his studies, continuing to attend school until he had mastered the common branches. He was early brought to realize the responsibilities and duties of life, and can hardly remember when he had not some definitely assigned tasks which had to be performed regularly. When still a school boy he worked in the fields and before attaining his maturity was familiar with the practical methods of agriculture. He lived on the home farm until after the death of the parents when he and his brothers bought the interest of their sisters in the homestead, which they subsequently divided. Mr. Powers received as his portion his present holding, which was entirely unimproved. During the intervening years a comfortable residence and substantial barns and sheds have been erected, while as his circumstances have warranted he has added many minor improvements and modern inventions. Thus he has not only increased the productiveness of his farm, but he has added greatly to its attractiveness as a place of residence, both of which have contributed to its value. Diversified farming and stock-raising have always been Mr. Powers' main source of revenue, and under his systematic and capable direction both have proven very remunerative.

In June, 1877, Mr. Powers was married to Miss Katie McIntyre, and to them have been born six children: Steven, William and John, who are deceased; Mary Ann; Aileen; and Leon W., who is a student at the Chicago University.

The church connection of the family is that of the Roman Catholic, and politically Mr. Powers staunchly supports the demo-

cratic party. He takes an interest in all township affairs and has served for several years as trustee. He is a man who is always ready to serve in any public capacity and after the Spirit Lake massacre joined one of the regiments organized to protect the settlers from the Indians. Mr. Powers has prospered in his undertakings, but it is the success which invariably rewards the man, who energetically applies himself to acquiring a thorough mastery of the business he is engaged in and utilizes the knowledge thus gained in an intelligent manner.

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### PETER A. HOUGE.

On July 24, 1908, occurred an event which was the occasion of genuine sorrow in the village of Badger as well as in the surrounding districts, for on that date Peter A. Houge, who had been an honored and respected citizen of the county for forty years, passed away. Mr. Houge had for many years been engaged in farming and in various business activities in the section and was mayor of Badger when he died. He was, therefore, widely and favorably known and had a wide circle of friends. He was a native of Wisconsin, having been born in this state on June 26, 1860, and was a son of John and Carrie (Dahl) Houge, natives of Norway. His parents came to America at an early date and located in Wisconsin, where the father farmed for a number of years finally coming to Iowa where he settled in Webster county. In 1868 he took up land in Badger township which he improved and operated until his death which occurred on November 11, 1892, when he was sixty-nine years of age. His wife survived him until 1905, dying in August of that year.

Mr. Houge has been a resident of Badger township since he was eight years of age. His education was received in the public schools of this section and he remained at home until he had attained his majority. When he was twenty-one years of age he began active life for himself, renting one of his father's farms and operated the same for several years with gratifying success. He purchased this property and carried on general agriculture until 1890, when he moved to the village of Badger and established himself in the merchandise business, conducting a store and farming at the same time for about one year. He later disposed of

his general mercantile business and conducted a hardware store which he operated successfully and along the most progressive and modern lines until his death which occurred in July, 1908.

In January, 1882, Mr. Houge was united in marriage to Miss Elinor E. Lindberg, a daughter of John and Christine Lindberg, natives of Sweden. Her father came to America at an early date, settling in Illinois where he farmed for a number of years coming later to Webster county where he purchased land in Harden township which he operated and developed until September, 1893. Both parents were making their home with Mrs. Houge when they passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Houge had four children: Irene E., the wife of Frederick Dorheim, of Badger; Arnold E., who is a hardware merchant in the same village; Clifford K., who is a successful furniture dealer; and Pearl L., who passed away in January, 1911.

In his political affiliations Mr. Houge was a firm republican and always actively interested in the welfare and progress of his section. He held many township offices and was mayor of Badger at the time of his death. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and well known in the affairs of that organization. He was an active and industrious man, of a good business and political ability, being systematic and efficient in the conduct of his mercantile business, and upright, conscientious and public spirited in his official life. His prosperity was of the solid kind which is the outgrowth of merit and his business was kept subservient to his duties of citizenship. His death caused widespread regret which was a genuine tribute of sorrow for the close of a worthy life.

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#### REV. JAMES J. DOLLIVER.

The term "Father Dolliver," by which he was everywhere known, indicated how high was the position which the Rev. James Jones Dolliver held in the regard and love of his fellowmen. It is a name that transcends that of any title, indicating the closest possible relationship in all that is beautiful and sacred in life. In his later years, as the result of his far-reaching efforts in the ministry and the noble life which he led, he became known as Father Dolliver throughout the entire country, and especially in Washington, where his last days were



REV. JAMES J. DOLLIVER

THE  
PUBLIC  
ASSEMBLY  
AND  
FOUNDATIONS.

passed in the home of his distinguished son, J. P. Dolliver. A native of Saratoga county, New York, he was born in 1816, a son of Captain Henry and Mary (Van Vorhees) Dolliver. The former was captain of a ship running between New York and Liverpool and served in the War of 1812. Captured by the British, he was sent to Dartmoor prison in England, being released at the cessation of hostilities, after which he returned to America.

James J. Dolliver acquired his education in the public schools of New Jersey, where he spent his early boyhood and afterward engaged in teaching school. He was truly a self-made man so far as regards college education, but in the school of experience he learned many valuable lessons. He learned to know and interpret human nature, to understand and sympathize with human weaknesses and to encourage and promote the better qualities. Taking up the profession of teaching, he was throughout his life an educator, not in the limited sense of giving instruction in the rudimentary branches or even in the classics and sciences, but a teacher in the broader sense of preparing the individual for life's responsible duties. On leaving the east he removed to Ohio and engaged in merchandising in Columbus. While there living he was converted and, resolving to devote his life to the cause of Christianity, became a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. For more than a half century he was thus in active connection with the church, preaching in Virginia and in West Virginia, where he was particularly interested in the educational affairs of the church. He was ever proud of the fact that he had been a circuit rider in Virginia, carrying the gospel into isolated homes and districts where there was much need of the cheering word and message of religion.

At Kingwood, Preston county, Virginia, Mr. Dolliver was married to Eliza Jane Brown, a daughter of Robert Brown of that place. The family to which she belonged was one of the oldest and most distinguished in the state, her uncle, William G. Brown, being a member of congress when the state of West Virginia was formed. The children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Dolliver were the Rev. Robert H. Dolliver, who married Mary Ella Barrett, of Ohio; the Hon. Jonathan P. Dolliver, who married Louise Pearsons, of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Victor Brown, who wedded Augusta Larrabee; Mary, the wife of Edwin R. Graham, of Ohio; and Margaret Gay Dolliver, who now occupies the position of dean of women at Morningside College.

The Rev. James J. Dolliver gave his political allegiance to the republican party and with him politics meant one of the departments

of citizenship, which term always carries with it a sense of obligation and responsibility as well as of privilege. He was concerned with the vital sociological, economical and political questions of the day as well as with the great moral problems, and his influence was ever a permeating force on the side of progress, reform, justice and truth. He lived with his son, the Hon. Jonathan P. Dolliver, during the latter's public career in Washington and was honored and beloved by all who knew him. He died in the capital city at the ripe old age of eighty-nine years and was laid to rest in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Thus ended the earthly career of "Father Dolliver" but his memory is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him and his influence is felt in the lives of all who came under his teaching.

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### LUTHER HERBERT PRATT.

Luther Herbert Pratt, who lives upon his farm on section 22, Otho Township, was born in Granville, Licking county, Ohio, on the 11th of February, 1843. His parents were Luther M. and Chloe D. (Moore) Pratt, both of whom were natives of Granville. The father, a wagon maker by trade, worked at that occupation in Granville for a number of years. Subsequently he followed farming in the Buckeye state until the spring of 1866, when he came to Webster county, Iowa, and purchased eighty acres of land on section 28, Otho Township. Later he bought additional tracts of land until he owned a farm of two hundred and twenty-two and one-half acres. Here his wife died November 8, 1878. He married again, in 1880, his second wife being Jane M. (Kennedy) Madden. After this he spent part of his time on the farm and part in Gowrie, Iowa. His demise, however, occurred in South Dakota, October 21, 1890, while he was in that state on business. His second wife died in Rockford, Washington, July 29, 1900.

The subject of this sketch was reared in the state of his nativity and worked at home for his father until 1862. Then came the call of President Lincoln for volunteers, and August 15, 1862, Mr. Pratt enlisted as a private in Company A, Eighty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and remained with that command until he was mustered out, July 3, 1865. After the war he came to Webster county, Iowa, and lived with his parents for several years. In 1875 he rented a farm in Otho township, devoting his attention to its opera-



MR. AND MRS. L. H. PRATT

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tion for three years. Then, in 1878, he went to Clinton county, Iowa, where for one year he owned and conducted a drug store. Later, in 1879, he was appointed postmaster of Charlotte, and acted in that capacity for six years. With the change of administration, when Cleveland became president, he was relieved of the office. Soon after, in April, 1886, he returned to Webster county, Iowa, and cultivated rented land for eight years. Subsequently in 1894, he purchased sixty-five acres of his present farm, on section 22, Otho township, and began the improvement of the place. The farm house is situated on the bluffs overlooking the Des Moines River valley, and is surrounded by native timber, making a pleasant and attractive property. This with some additional land, afterward purchased, still remains the home of Mr. and Mrs. Pratt.

On the 29th of August, 1875, Mr. Pratt was united in marriage to Miss Vergenia L. Markham, a daughter of Elijah and Zurviah Mary (Shaw) Markham, both of whom were natives of New York, and where she herself was born March 22, 1854. The father, a carpenter by trade, worked at that occupation in the Empire state until April, 1855, when he came to Iowa, locating at Charlotte, Clinton county. There he continued the work of his trade and spent the remainder of his life, passing away on the 4th of November, 1904. His wife had previously died on the 8th of January, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Pratt have one son, Harlow M., who is an attorney of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and the editor of this history.

In politics Mr. Pratt is a stanch republican. He has served as trustee of Otho township and has also filled the offices of assessor and school director at different times. His religious faith is that of the Congregational church, while his wife is a Methodist.

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#### HIRAM H. BALDWIN, M. D.

Dr. Hiram H. Baldwin is one of the well known members of the medical fraternity of Webster county, having been actively and successfully engaged in the practice of this profession in Clare for twenty years. He was born in De Kalb, Illinois, on the 12th of September, 1849, and is a son of Smith D. and Sarah D. (Hopkins) Baldwin, natives of Ohio and Salem, New York, re-

spectively. At the age of twenty-one years, the father enlisted as second lieutenant under Captain John Chapman of the Third Ohio Infantry and went to the front in the Mexican war. He enlisted at Tiffin, Ohio, on the 3d of June, 1846, and remained in the service for thirteen months. A blacksmith by trade, when mustered out of the army he went to DeKalb, Illinois, and established a wagon and blacksmith shop, which he conducted for many years. He also entered a hundred and sixty acres of land and engaged to a limited degree in agricultural pursuits in connection with working at his trade. In 1869, he removed with his family to Calhoun county, Iowa, and purchased eighty acres of land in the vicinity of Lake City. The development of his farm engaged his entire time and attention during the remainder of his life, his death here occurring in August, 1872, at the age of forty-seven years. He was long survived by the mother, who had nearly reached the eighty-seventh anniversary of her birth before passing away on January 6, 1912.

Dr. Baldwin was reared and educated in his native town, where he passed the first twenty years of his life. After leaving the public school he learned the printer's trade, which he followed in DeKalb for four years. He accompanied his family on their removal to Iowa and assisted his father with the cultivation of the home place until 1871. During that time he also assisted in establishing and operating the first newspaper in Calhoun county. In the fall of '71, he returned to DeKalb and began the study of medicine under the direction of his uncle, Dr. Robert Hopkins. The next year he matriculated in the medical department of the Northwestern University and there continued his professional studies for a year. Having exhausted his funds at the expiration of that period he was compelled to go to work in order to acquire the means to continue his education. The next four years he was employed at various vocations, resuming his studies in the fall of 1878. He remained in college during the succeeding two years, being graduated with the class of 1880. Upon receiving his degree he returned to Lake City, where he established an office and engaged in the practice of his profession until the 25th of August, 1892, when he disposed of his interests at that point and came to Clare. Here he has ever since been located and has met with a good measure of success in building up a practice. He owns a nice residence and business building on Main street, and is held in high regard in the community both as a representative of his

profession and as a private citizen. In addition to his private practice Dr. Baldwin is the local examiner for several of the old line insurance companies.

In March, 1882, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Baldwin and Miss Margaret A. Hines, of Janesville, Wisconsin. She is a daughter of Patrick and Johana Hines, natives of Ireland, whence they emigrated to the United States in early life.

Dr. Baldwin is not identified with any church but Mrs. Baldwin is a Roman Catholic. He votes the democratic ticket, and while living in Calhoun county took an active interest in politics, having been the first mayor of Lake City, where he also held the office of postmaster from 1886 to 1890. He is a member of the County and State Medical Societies, through the medium of which organizations he maintains relations with his fellow practitioners. A residence in Clare covering a period of more than twenty years has enabled Dr. Baldwin to prove himself to be not only a skilful physician and surgeon but a man of many estimable qualities and traits of character, which have served to win him the stanch loyalty of a large circle of friends.

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#### PATRICK T. BURKE.

Patrick T. Burke has been engaged in the general merchandise business in Barnum, Iowa, for many years, having a record of almost twenty-five years of continuously successful activity in one location. By being always upright and straightforward in his methods and standards of operation and by keeping his stock of the highest quality he has become known as the most trustworthy tradesman in the village and has gained well deserved prosperity. He was born in Johnson township, February 1, 1865, and is a son of Philip and Bridget (Connors) Burke, natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1852, settling first in Illinois, where he worked at railroading. In 1857 he came to Webster county and entered land near Clare, Johnson township. After proving his title he moved upon the property, which he operated and developed until 1870, when he disposed of his holdings and went to Calhoun county. Here he again purchased land and farmed along progressive lines until his death, which occurred in September, 1877. He was killed in a runaway accident. His wife survived him until December, 1907.

Patrick Burke was reared at home and educated in the public schools of Webster county, where he has spent his entire life. He remained with his parents upon the home farm until he attained his majority, subsequently establishing himself in the mercantile business, when he formed a partnership with Tom Connors in the conduct of a general store and the association continued for a year and a half, after which Mr. Burke purchased Mr. Connors' interest and has since continued the enterprise alone. He is at present located upon the site where his business was founded in 1888. He has met with some reverses but has on the whole been unusually successful. His store and some of his stock were destroyed by fire on June 10, 1902, when the entire business section of the village was wiped out with a loss to the community of thirty thousand dollars. Fifteen substantial buildings were burned to the ground, among them Mr. Burke's store. He immediately afterward erected a fine, one-story brick building which he now occupies. He owns the double brick structure adjoining this and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company and the Barnum Telephone Company. He has been very successful, having founded his prosperity upon high standards of commercial honor and integrity. He has never sold his home farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Calhoun county and this is now an additional source of income to him.

In his political affiliations Mr. Burke is a consistent republican and has served as secretary of the Barnum school board for twenty years and also did able work as a member of the town council. He belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and to the Modern Woodmen of America. He has built up gradually an enterprise which is now important in retail trade circles of Barnum, seeking no success more conspicuous than that which he has attained in his reputation as a clean and practical business man.

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#### EDWARD BURGFRIED.

The late Edward Burgfried was one of the natives of Germany, who came to America practically empty-handed and through his inherent diligence and thrift ultimately became numbered among the prosperous agriculturists of Webster county, owning at the

time of his demise two hundred and forty acres of well cultivated land in Douglas township. His natal day was in March, 1843, and his parents Dominicus and Margaret (Mangold) Burgfried, who passed their entire lives in Germany, where the father followed the profession of architecture.

The first thirty-one years in the life of Edward Burgfried were passed in the land of his birth. Feeling convinced at the expiration of that time that America afforded better opportunities to the enterprising man than were to be found in his native land he took passage with his wife and family for the United States. They located in Fort Dodge, this county, in 1874 and there for three years he followed the carpenter's trade. He next turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and in 1877 rented a farm in Douglas township, in the cultivation of which he met with such success that the next year he was able to buy an eighty acre tract. He kept on increasing his holdings from time to time, as he was able, until he held the title to two hundred and forty acres. He engaged in the development of his property until his death, which resulted from an accident, on the 23d of October, 1883. He was plowing a field, and had taken with him to his work a gun in order that he might shoot any game he saw; in some way it was discharged and he was instantly killed.

In Germany in November, 1867, Mr. Burgfried was united in marriage to Miss Crescenzia Knoevley, a daughter of Jacob and Rosina (Egenter) Knoevley. The father, who was a farmer, engaged in agricultural pursuits in his native land until about fifteen years prior to his death, which occurred in January, 1890. The mother, who has now attained the venerable age of ninety years, still makes her home in Germany. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Burgfried, as follows: Theodore, who died in Germany in 1869; Cireak, who died in 1871; Max, who is a farmer in South Dakota; Edward, who lives at home; Theodore, who is a resident of Des Moines; Mary Frances, the wife of William Murphy, a farmer of Douglas township; Joseph and George, who are at home; Rosina, the wife of James Dwyer, of Johnson township; and Adolph E., who is attending the State University.

Mrs. Burgfried, who is now sixty-five years of age, having been born on the 17th of December, 1847, is a woman of unusual executive and business ability. After the death of her husband, together with her sons she continued the operation of the farm.

As she is practical and a capable manager she prospered in her undertakings, and has added to her acreage until she owns five hundred and sixty acres of highly improved land.

In matters of faith Mr. Burgfried was a Roman Catholic, as are also his widow and family, while his political support he accorded to the republican party. He was a man of many excellent qualities and was highly esteemed in his community, where he had shown himself to be honorable and upright in all matters of business, and was in every way a desirable citizen.

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### CHARLES FAVERSHAM DUNCOMBE.

The history of Fort Dodge bears evidence of the professional and commercial activity of Charles Faversham Duncombe, who since 1884 has been identified with journalistic interests here and at the same time has become a factor in the manufacturing and financial circles of the city. He was here born February 20, 1864, a son of John Francis and Mary A. Duncombe. The father was a prominent and influential resident of Fort Dodge, where he settled in April, 1855, becoming a pioneer lawyer of this then frontier village. He was born October 22, 1831, in Wattsburg, Pennsylvania, and was educated in Allegheny College of Meadville, Pennsylvania, and Central University of Danville, Kentucky. He read law in his native town and for a year practiced in Pennsylvania, but in April, 1855, came to Fort Dodge, where he won prominence in professional circles. In 1857, when the news of the Spirit Lake massacre reached this city, he was active in raising troops to march against the Indians and as captain of a company went to the defense of the frontier. In 1858 he wedded Mary A. Williams, daughter of Major William Williams. The following year he was elected to the state senate and later was twice a member of the lower house. In 1872 he was chairman of the Iowa delegation to the national democratic convention at Baltimore, and in 1892 was selected to present the name of Horace Boies before the national democratic convention of that year for president. He served for sixteen years as regent of the State University and at the same time he continued a prominent representative of his profession, serving for thirty-six years as attorney for the Iowa division of the Illinois Central Railroad, also as

attorney for the Mason City & Fort Dodge Railroad, the Des Moines & Fort Dodge and the Cherokee & Dakota Railroads, practicing over twenty-five counties in the state. He was also a leading factor in the development of the coal interests of his part of Iowa and as such contributed largely to material progress. His labors were indeed a large factor in the growth and upbuilding of the section in which he lived and his intense business and professional activity were combined with a high sense of honor that made him one of the most esteemed citizens of Fort Dodge. His wife, who came to this city with her parents in March, 1855, is now president of the Webster County Historical Society. John F. Duncombe was a charter member of the chapter and commandery of the Masonic fraternity here and was also a Scottish Rite Mason. In politics he was a stalwart democrat. He remained a resident of Webster county until his death, which occurred August 2, 1902. In the family were three sons and two daughters: William E., Charles F., Mary J., Gertrude and John A.

Charles F. Duncombe pursued his education in public and private schools and in the State University but did not reach graduation. He was a young man of but twenty years when he became identified with the publication of a newspaper in Fort Dodge and he has since been closely associated with journalistic interests here, being now sole owner of the Fort Dodge Daily Chronicle, which is one of the best known and leading journals of the state. In its columns he has discussed vital public questions relating to municipal affairs and to state and national welfare. His position has always been characterized by a progressiveness that has its root in practical methods. In business circles, too, Mr. Duncombe has made a creditable name and place for himself. For fourteen years he was actively identified with the manufacture of gypsum products and in addition to being a stockholder in the United States Gypsum Company he is also financially interested in the Monarch Telephone Company, the Fort Dodge National Bank and in farm lands, beside owning town property, including the building which is the home of the Chronicle.

In public office Mr. Duncombe has also left the impress of his individuality upon the welfare of the city. He was postmaster from 1894 until 1898 and mayor from 1906 until 1908, when he declined to become a candidate for reelection. In 1908 he was honored by the democrats of Iowa by being named as one of the

four delegates-at-large to the Denver convention. At the present writing he is president of the school board, a director of the Chautauqua Association and a director of the Country Club, all of which goes to show the nature and breadth of his interests. His military history covers service as first sergeant of the first company organized in Fort Dodge. His political allegiance has always been given to the democratic party and he is well known in fraternal relations, holding membership with the Knights of Pythias, the Red Men and the Moose. Of the first named he has been chancellor commander and keeper of the records and seals.

On the 22d of November, 1887, at Fort Dodge, Mr. Duncombe was united in marriage to Miss Antoinette Hull, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Hull. The father, who was a leading dry-goods merchant here, died in December, 1884, and the mother, who had lived here from her childhood, coming with her parents from Harvard, Illinois, passed away on the 17th of September, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Duncombe have two children, John Faverham and Carl Milton. The family attend the Episcopal church, of which Mr. Duncombe and his wife are members, and Mr. Duncombe also is a vestryman. They have been lifelong residents of this city and have a circle of friends here almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance. His varied business interests and his official service have brought him prominently before the public and none question the sincerity of his interest in the welfare of the municipality, for this has found tangible proof in his many acts for the city's good.

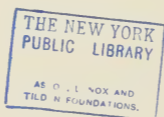
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### VICTOR BROWN DOLLIVER.

Victor Brown Dolliver was a representative of the highest type of citizenship. He stood for those things which are most worth while in life—the highest physical, mental and moral development—and his beliefs and sympathies found expression in tangible effort for the good of his fellowmen. He worked for the benefit of the majority in his political activity, in the church and in many other ways, ever progressing toward the high ideals which he had set up. He was born in Kingwood, West Virginia, March 18, 1861, a son of the Rev. James Jones and Eliza Jane (Brown) Dolliver. He was early possessed of a



VICTOR B. DOLLIVER



desire for an education and walked from five to seven miles to attend elementary schools. He afterward availed himself of the opportunity of pursuing a three years' course at the State Normal School at Fairmont, West Virginia, and he also attended De Pauw University at Greencastle, Indiana. He at length completed a course in Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, in 1887 and was graduated from the Columbia Law School at Washington, D. C., in 1891. He became widely and favorably known through his efforts in the field of teaching. He was principal of the public schools in Gowrie, Iowa, and afterward accepted the position of principal of the Methodist Seminary in Salt Lake City, Utah. In the latter position he came in close contact with Mormonism and was a leader of the Gentile element in opposition to the admission of Utah as a state because of the power which would thus be given to Mormon influence. His wise and judicious investments in real estate at length made him an extensive landowner, for as he profited in one sale he would make further purchases until his holdings were large and important.

Mr. Dolliver's boyhood days, spent upon the borderland between the great contending sections of the country, gave him a hatred for slavery and a love for the Union that resulted in his becoming an ardent advocate of republican principles. With him, to believe in a cause was to espouse it and he became a prominent political speaker, holding the attention of his auditors when he addressed them upon the vital and living questions of the time.

In 1896 Mr. Dolliver was married to Miss Augusta Larrabee, the eldest daughter of ex-Governor Larrabee, of Iowa. During her father's four years' term as governor of the state she was prominent and popular in the social circles of the capital, winning the love and friendship of all with whom she came in contact not only among the residents of Des Moines but throughout Iowa as well.

Mr. Dolliver was a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal church and one of the most prominent laymen in that denomination in Iowa. He went as a member to the general conference in Los Angeles, California, in 1904 and he was unflinching in his efforts to promote the upbuilding of the church in every possible way. From the time of his wife's death in 1899 he seemed to live for others rather than himself. He was continually helping the poor, visiting the sick, sending beautiful flowers to cheer the sickroom or speaking words of comfort and peace to the sufferer. He loved his church and had made extensive

plans for its future that its work might be extended and its influence broadened. A gift of ten thousand dollars to Morningside College a few months before his death was one of his last important efforts to promote the growth of the church. His life was indeed of far-reaching influence and benefit, and the world is better for his having lived.

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### AUGUST MOLLENHOFF.

August Mollenhoff is among the well known farmers of Webster county, where he is successfully engaged in the cultivation of a highly developed farm of one hundred and twenty acres located on section 21, Burnside township. He was born in Andover, Henry county, Illinois, September 5, 1862, and is a son of Hans and Sophia (Larson) Mollenhoff, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The father came to America about 1850, coming to Andover, where he married in 1853, and went to Pike's Peak, Colorado, at the time of the gold excitement in 1858. He remained there for two years and then returned to Andover, Henry county, Illinois, where he took up employment as a mail carrier and in that occupation continued for a period of ten years. He was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Larson, a daughter of Peter Larson, who emigrated to America and settled in Andover, Henry county, Illinois, in 1849. It took six months to make the trip from Sweden, fourteen weeks of which were spent crossing the Atlantic. Peter Larson was first married in Sweden and had a family of two daughters and one son. His wife died at the time he emigrated to America and was buried at sea and he later married Sophia Anderson, and to that union one daughter was born. The mother died and Mr. Larson was later married and to his third union a large family was born. He died in Andover, Henry county, and was there buried. To Mr. and Mrs. Hans Mollenhoff six children were born. J. P., who is engaged in the drug business in Stanton, Iowa, married Clara Anderson, of Geneseo, Illinois. Sarah, who became the wife of A. W. Johnson, of Andover, passed away in December, 1884, at the age of twenty-four, leaving one son, Reuben, and was buried near McPherson, Kansas. August, the subject of our sketch, is the next in order of birth. Matilda is the wife of Alfred Rosenquist and resides in Burnside township. Ernest, who is engaged in the produce business, married Sadie Freed, a daughter of C. J.

Freed, and resides in Stanton, Iowa. Edward wedded Emma Peterson and resides on the old home farm. The father of this family, Hans Mollenhoff, came to Burnside in 1881 and died at the age of eighty-one and was buried at Dayton cemetery. At the time of his death he owned a farm of one hundred and twenty acres adjoining the town of Burnside. He also owned land near Lehigh, but never improved the property as it was heavily timbered and the annual increase in timber value was sufficient to make it a good investment without in any way, disturbing its condition. This property is now owned by his widow, who resides with her daughter, Mrs. Alfred Rosenquist.

August Mollenhoff was reared in his parents' home and received his elementary education in Henry county, Illinois. At the age of about eighteen he settled in Burnside township, Webster county, Iowa, where he was engaged at work for a number of years, after which he removed to Omaha, Nebraska, and after spending five years in that city, he returned to Burnside township and later lived for one year in Gowrie, Iowa, where he was engaged in the paint and furniture business. He then returned to Burnside, where he established a furniture store, which he conducted for one year. He then purchased from E. H. Litchfield one hundred and twenty acres of unimproved land located on section 21, Burnside township, where he established his home and has since continued to reside. He has improved the place with suitable farm buildings and has also planted ornamental and fruit trees of various kinds. The county ditch crosses Mr. Mollenhoff's farm, the expense of which to him in assessed taxes was he has also thoroughly tiled the entire place. He raises mixed grains and also makes a specialty of pure-bred Hereford cattle and hogs.

Mr. Mollenhoff was united in marriage to Miss Emily Anderson, a native of Sweden. Her father is deceased but her mother still lives in Sweden. To Mr. and Mrs. Mollenhoff six children have been born: Laura, who is attending Tobin College; Alma, a pupil in the public schools of Burnside township; and Raymond, Harley, Mabel and Clarence, aged respectively thirteen, eleven, eight and six years, all of whom are attending school. Mr. Mollenhoff at one time was affiliated with the republican party and served as constable of his township for ten years, and was justice of the peace for one term and has been a school director for seven years. He is at present affiliated with the republican party and he and his family are members of the Lutheran

church. Mr. Mollenhoff is numbered among the very successful farmers of Burnside township and is a man who is highly respected for his integrity in all business transactions and who by public opinion is placed among the useful citizens of his part of the state.

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### EDGAR H. WILLIAMS.

Edgar H. Williams is well known in business circles of Fort Dodge as secretary, treasurer and manager of the E. H. Williams Lumber Company, which concern he organized. His birth occurred in Burlington, Wisconsin, on the 22d of May, 1868, his parents being Edgar and Cornelia (Law) Williams, both of whom were natives of New York. His paternal grandfather, a native of Wales, and an agriculturist by occupation, became an early settler of Bartlett, Oneida county, New York. Both he and his wife attained a ripe old age and reared a large family of children. George W. Law, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of New York, and a farmer by occupation. Both he and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Harriet Blakesley, were well advanced in years when called to their final rest. Their children were eight in number.

Edgar Williams, the father of E. H. Williams, was reared in Oneida county, New York, and became an early settler of Burlington, Wisconsin, where he embarked in business as a manufacturer of farming implements, carriages and wagons. He there passed away in 1871, at the comparatively early age of thirty-seven years. His widow is still living and makes her home at Canastota, New York. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party, was a Baptist in religious faith and fraternally was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His widow is also a devoted member of the Baptist church. Their children were five in number, namely: Rhoda Gertrude, who is the widow of W. E. Barott and resides in Canastota, New York; Clarence B., who makes his home at Morningside, Sioux City, Iowa; Florence J., who is the widow of E. A. Haines and lives in Canastota, New York; Edgar H., of this review; and Charles, who died at the age of three years.

Edgar H. Williams, whose name introduces this review, was three years of age when his father died and when taken by his widowed mother to Bartlett, New York, where he grew to manhood. He pursued his early education in the common schools, later attended the

Canastota high school and then continued his studies in Cook Academy at Havana, New York. He spent two winters as a district schoolteacher and in 1888 came to Iowa, operating a farm in Douglas township, Webster county, for three years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Fort Dodge and for nine years acted as manager of the lumberyard owned by G. W. Mason. During the following year he had charge of four yards in southern Iowa and subsequently spent five years as manager of the Citizens Lumber Company of Fort Dodge and four years as manager for the Townsend & Merrill Company of this city. Feeling that his capital and experience justified him in embarking in business on his own account, he then organized the E. H. Williams Lumber Company, of which he has been the secretary, treasurer and manager to the present time. He is a man of splendid business ability and sound judgment, and under his direction the enterprise has enjoyed continued growth and success.

On the 18th of July, 1892, Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Miss Carrie E. Winter, who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the 10th of October, 1869, her parents being William and Anna (Terry) Winter, both deceased. The father was a native of England and the mother of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. They had six children, as follows: Carrie E.; James; Florence; William; Adelia; and Anna, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have one son, Robert Law, whose natal day was June 7, 1895.

In politics Mr. Williams is a republican and for nine years he has been a member of the school board. He is a worthy exemplar of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Ashlar Lodge, No. 111, F. & A. M., and also to the chapter, R. A. M. He is a deacon in the Baptist church, to which his wife also belongs. Throughout the period of his residence in Fort Dodge, covering about a quarter of a century, Mr. Williams has maintained an unassailable reputation for business enterprise and probity, while the sterling worth of his character has gained him the friendship of those with whom he has come into contact.

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#### CURTIS G. MESSEROLE.

Curtis G. Messerole is one of the enterprising citizens of Webster county, located at Gowrie, and is successfully engaged in the grain and lumber business. He was born in Clayton county, Iowa, January 3, 1864, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Abbott) Messerole.

The paternal grandparent was of Welch stock, being born in Brooklyn, New York, settling later in Ohio, where his family was reared, moving subsequently to Michigan, where he died at the advanced age of ninety-four years. The father was a native of Brooklyn, New York, moving with his parents to Ohio, where he resided until 1852, when he moved with his wife and one child to Clayton county, Iowa. He later went to Manchester, in Delaware county, where he engaged in the coal, wood and ice business, also being the owner of two farms, including two hundred acres of land in Delaware county. The mother was a native of Ohio and was descended from Puritan stock. They were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this review was the youngest.

Curtis G. Messerole was reared in his parents' home and received his education in the public schools of Iowa. After completing his school course he was engaged in working on a farm until he was eighteen years of age. In 1882 he went to Correctionville, Woodbury county, Iowa, and there took up work as bookkeeper and salesman for a lumber company, with whom he remained for nearly four years, afterward engaging as bookkeeper and buyer for a grain firm, and later with a hardware and implement house, remaining with this firm until he moved to Kingsley, Iowa, in 1888. In 1890 he moved to Sterling, Illinois, being employed as manager of a transfer and clearing house for a large grain concern, where he remained until coming to Harcourt, Webster county, Iowa, in 1894, engaging in the grain and live-stock business on his own account. In the year 1897 he returned to Sterling, Illinois, where he again took up his work for the same firm, remaining there for five years or until 1902, when he came to Gowrie, Iowa, and became the manager of the Farmers Elevator Company, having been in the service of this company continuously for ten years.

In 1904 he was one of the organizers of the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa, and served as its secretary and organizer for seven years. A year later he organized the company which published the American Cooperative Journal, an organ devoted to the interests of cooperation, serving as the president and editor of this paper for six years, after which he relinquished the editorial work but still serves as president of the company.

Mr. Messerole was united in marriage, November 4, 1885, at Correctionville, to Miss Mary C. Kissinger, a daughter of Isaac and Adelia (Nicholson) Kissinger, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New York. The mother is of English descent and the

father of German extraction. The paternal grandfather as a young man prepared for the legal profession but never engaged in the practice of law. He later became interested in music and has devoted fully fifty years of his life to teaching.

To Mr. and Mrs. Messerole three children have been born. Gertrude A. is the wife of Arthur Lindquist, both being graduates of the Gowrie high school. She subsequently took a course at Tobin College at Fort Dodge, and he a course at Augustana College at Rock Island, Illinois. Mr. Lindquist is employed with his father and brother in conducting the First National Bank at Gowrie. To Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist one son has been born, Arthur Lindquist, Jr. Floy A. Messerole, the second daughter, is a graduate of the Gowrie high school and is employed as her father's bookkeeper. Kenneth Messerole is the only son and is a student in the Gowrie high school.

Mr. Messerole is a member of the Masonic lodge at Gowrie, the Chapter and Commandery at Ford Dodge, and the Consistory at Des Moines. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Gowrie, the Knights of Pythias at Gowrie, and the Royal Neighbors at Sterling, Illinois. He is now serving his second term as mayor of Gowrie, has been a member of the town board for two terms, and is serving his third term as member of the board of education, of which he is president. He is one of the enterprising, successful business men of Gowrie and is held in high esteem by all his friends and associates.

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#### WALTER J. POST.

Walter J. Post, who is manager of the store of Post & Company, dealers in general merchandise, and also in hay and corn, at Lehigh, is a prominent resident of that city and has served for eight years consecutively as trustee of Sumner township. He is a son of O. B. and Annie E. Post and was born in Green county, Wisconsin. He lived with his parents on a farm until seventeen years of age, and in 1886 came with his parents to Webster county, Iowa, settling on a farm of two hundred acres, which they later sold. The store of Post & Company was then established, which is now managed by W. J. Post. The father passed away at the age of sixty-five years, and was buried in the Lehigh cemetery. He was a faithful member of the Christian church. His wife now resides in this city and is the

owner of the Post & Company store. She has reached the age of seventy-six years and is very active and energetic.

Walter J. Post still resides with his mother. He is one of five children, the others being: Arthur, who resides in Oklahoma; Mrs. Mary Hall, a widow, of Hampton, Iowa; Charles, of Lehigh, Iowa, who also resides with his mother and is connected with the store; and Harry, the youngest, who is located at Des Moines, Iowa, and is city passenger agent for the Great Western Railway.

Walter J. Post received his early education in the public schools of Wisconsin and later attended school in Webster township. Ever since the opening of the store of Post & Company he has been associated with the same and has been the general manager. In his political views he is a democrat; but in local party issues he votes for the man whom he considers to be best qualified to fill the office. He has ever been very active in all local party measures and is now a member of the city council on the independent ticket, having been a member of the council for six years. He also has been trustee of Sumner township for eight consecutive years on the democratic ticket. Mr. Post is greatly interested in reform and progress and has been a very helpful factor in the general improvement. Active and energetic, he is an enterprising business man of Lehigh, displaying those traits of character which in every land and clime awaken respect and admiration.

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#### A. F. DAUGHENBAUGH.

A. F. Daughenbaugh is successfully engaged in the banking and real-estate business in Gowrie. He was born in Dayton, Webster county, February 13, 1872, and is a son of A. R. and Henrietta (Richey) Daughenbaugh. The paternal grandfather, James Daughenbaugh, was by occupation a miller. He removed from Pennsylvania to Illinois and settled in Freeport, Stephenson county, where he continued to live during the remaining years of his life. The maternal grandparents were Jasper and Martha Richey. The grandfather followed the occupation of milling for a time and later, in 1854, settled in Dayton county and engaged in farming. The father, A. R. Daughenbaugh, came to Webster county in 1867. In the fall of the following year he came to Gowrie and engaged in banking and real estate. When the Rock Island Railroad was built through this part of the

state he purchased some of the right-of-way for the company and at that time became interested in different places along the line of that road and later acquired interests in a number of different mercantile stores and also in several elevators. He was affiliated with the republican party and for twenty-five years filled the office of postmaster of Gowrie. He was mayor of the city, for many years treasurer of Gowrie and a member of the school board. He held membership in Rose Lodge, No. 509, F. & A. M., and died May 29, 1900. His widow survives him.

A. F. Daughenbaugh was reared at home and received his early education in the public schools and later graduated from the Des Moines high school. He afterward pursued a course of instruction in the Bryant & Stratton Business College in Chicago and was later graduated from the Drake College of Law. He then engaged in the banking and real-estate business in Gowrie, to which he has since continued to devote his attention.

In October, 1903, Mr. Daughenbaugh was united in marriage to Miss Lottie Spangler, a daughter of John and Emma (Wingert) Spangler. The father came from Franklin, Illinois, to Gowrie, in 1890, and is one of the prominent contractors and builders of that place. Mr. Daughenbaugh is at present a member of the town council. He is one of the active, enterprising citizens of Webster county and a man who is well and favorably known throughout this portion of the state.

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### NORMAN H. HART.

Nobility of character, high principle and unfaltering devotion to duty in relation to home and family, to society and to the country at large, made Norman H. Hart a citizen whom to know was to respect and honor. There are few who have had as great influence upon the moral progress of Otho township and Webster county, his labors being particularly effective in Sunday-school work. His life therefore may well serve as an example to all who desire to travel the upward path, holding at all times to the highest standards of Christian manhood.

Mr. Hart was born in Glastonbury, Connecticut, July 10, 1826, and was a youth of eight years when in 1834 he accompanied his parents on their westward removal to Illinois, where he remained through the ensuing two decades. During that period he pursued a

four years' course in a mission institute near the city of Quincy, Illinois. He came of the best New England stock, with very pronounced ideas of what constituted Christian manhood, and at that early period laid the foundation for what proved a singularly devoted and useful life. In 1844 he first came to Iowa and for five years thereafter spent his time at Danville. In the fall of 1853 he once more came to this state in search of a location for the family and after looking carefully over the ground finally decided upon Webster county as the future home of the Harts. He then planted a crop of spring wheat and on horseback returned to Illinois to assist the others of the household in removing to the new home. The journey was made in June, 1854, with nine yoke of oxen. They settled in Otho township and from that time until his death Norman H. Hart was continuously a valuable factor in the political, social, business and moral development of the county. In the early days of his residence here he had to face all the difficulties, obstacles and hardships incident to pioneer life, but he possessed an optimistic nature in which there was no room for pessimism. He always looked upon the bright side and when he encountered obstacles and difficulties met them with courageous and determined spirit, so that they were easily overcome. His work was carefully and systematically conducted and he won a comfortable competence, but the attainment of wealth was never the ultimate aim of his life. He desired to provide his family with a good living and succeeded in this but otherwise gave his time and attention to the higher, holier duties which affect man in his relations to his fellowmen and his Maker. He possessed a social nature and enjoyed the companionship of friends, always contributing his share toward making others happy. He was genial and sympathetic, hospitable and kindly, and his doors were ever open for the reception of friend and stranger alike.

Mr. Hart was often mentioned as an ideal husband and father. He cultivated the graces and virtues of natural helpfulness, goodwill, harmony, peace and courtesy. He was married on the 21st of September, 1860, to Jane Marrilla Fuller, who was born in Cayuga county, New York, September 11, 1830, and was a daughter of Clark and Deborah Fuller, who were also natives of the Empire state and in 1834 removed with their family to Granville, Ohio. There the daughter was reared to womanhood and took up the work of school teaching. In 1853 she became a resident of Marion, Iowa, and engaged in teaching school in that place and in Eldora until 1856, when she came to Webster county. She was a teacher in what is now

Evanston and also in Otho townships and throughout her life was deeply interested in the intellectual progress of the community. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hart were born four children but three died in infancy, the surviving daughter being Mrs. Theta Wonders, the wife of Thomas W. Wonders, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The Hart household was a Christian home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hart early in life identified themselves with the work of Christianity, and good-will and love radiated from their home, which was never "just four square walls." Its hospitality was proverbial and a Christlike spirit was ever there found. Mr. and Mrs. Hart were ever deeply and actively interested in the church work and each attended church services on the Sunday prior to their demise. Mr. Hart passed away November 22, 1908. It was written of him: "Uncle Norman Hart, by which endearing term he was known by young and old, was no ordinary character either in intellectual power or religious principles and attainments. To a naturally vigorous and well cultivated mind he united sterling integrity of principle, sincere and elevated piety, deep humility, ardent zeal for the divine glory, sincere love for his brethren and strong attachment to the church. His real Christian work began as teacher in Sunday school, in which field he continued a faithful and inspiring worker for sixty-two years. In addition to his work as teacher he was a successful organizer, and Webster county owes to the memory of this man of God a deep debt of gratitude for the moral tone and spiritual life bequeathed by him through the medium of his Sunday-school work. For fourteen years he was one of a quartette of Sunday school workers who traveled the length and breadth of Webster county, organizing and reorganizing Sunday schools and holding Sunday-school conventions each year in every township. The other three members of the band were F. B. Drake, C. H. Payne and H. R. Bradshaw. This work proved a constant impetus to the Sunday schools of the county and out of it grew several churches. He was a firm believer in the power of Christian song and in all his church and Sunday-school work he laid much stress upon this as an important factor. He believed that men were called to sing the gospel as well as to preach it. He was an instructor in vocal music and organized many singing classes out of which went many to sing the gospel. Politically he was a lifelong republican, intensely patriotic and loyal. He firmly believed that the republic is a child of Providence and ever recognized the hand of God in the guidance of its affairs and the building of its institutions. He deplored existing evils that stand in the way of the nation's greatest progress and glory, but he died with

a firm faith in the God of nations and in the future of his country. From what has already been said it scarcely needs emphasizing that his faith in the great doctrines of Christianity was complete and unbounded. To him the Bible was an inspired book, written by 'holy men of old as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.' He had no patience with theological trimmers. The word was the plummet, the ultimate standard by which he squared his life, and in the end of his days, when the body had grown weary, he was able to say: 'I have a pillow on which to rest my head,' and upon that pillow—even Jesus—he breathed his life out sweetly there. His Christian motto was—Onward and Upward; but he had a working motto in addition to this, which was his guide in the everyday affairs of life as he went in and out before his fellowmen, 'Do good and lend, hoping for nothing again.' The universal testimony of those who knew him best tells how closely he lived to this standard."

Mrs. Hart survived her husband for little more than a year and passed away on the 31st of December, 1909. The Rev. Francis Fawkes wrote of her: "A Godly woman in the prime of life, charged with vital energy, full of faith and virtue, reverent toward God, trustful in the Savior of men, and with a lofty ambition for ministering to human welfare—such a woman is the mightiest agent for righteousness the Almighty hath made on the earth. There are many such in the world and such was Mrs. Jane Hart when she first set foot on the soil of Webster county. The value of such a life to the moral and religious progress of society is far above that of gold and measured by any material standards of value, for when gold and gems have been molten and lost in the ashes of a burned world the fruit of such a life will abide and go on to grow and ripen forever and forever. Outside of the domestic circle where Mrs. Hart reigned as queen, her greatest work for humanity was the instruction of the primary class of the Sunday school in the teachings of the Bible. Her class usually numbered from fifteen to forty pupils, so in the course of a half century quite an army of these little people passed under her supervision and teaching. They were thus in the most impressionable period of life brought under the influence and in close contact with a Christian and motherly woman, who took **great interest in them** long after the days of childhood. Of the number who passed through this primary class, many remembered the precepts of their teacher when they reached years of maturity and reduced these precepts to service in a Christian life, and after marriage sent another generation of children to the same teacher. Mrs. Hart was one of the founders and organizers of the Otho Church Aid

Society, a body of Christian women that for more than a generation have been famous for their charitable good works. In almost every department of church work in which a lady could act, her long life has been one of incessant willing activity until sickness and weakness arrested her efforts. The world's great need is that such lives should be multiplied."

The memory of two such noble lives cannot but inspire and encourage all who came within the radius of their influence. Viewing such a life record as theirs, one cannot but be impressed with the fact that it is not from the few conspicuous deeds of life that the blessings chiefly come which make the world better, sweeter, happier, but from the countless lowly ministries of the everydays, the little faithfulnesses that fill long years.

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### JAMES W. RYAN.

James W. Ryan, whose service as steward of the poor farm has won him recognition not only as a capable agriculturist but as a business man of keen judgment and more than average executive ability, is a son of one of Webster county's pioneers. Although born in the state of New York, his natal day being the 30th of January, 1863, he is of Irish extraction, his parents, Thomas and Catherine (Dugan) Ryan, being natives of the Emerald isle. The father came to America in his early manhood, locating in the state of New York, where he obtained employment on a railroad. After about fifteen years residence there he removed with his family to Iowa, locating in Webster county in 1868. He invested his small capital in a tract of land in Badger township, which he diligently cultivated the remainder of his life, his death occurring on his farm in October, 1872. He was long survived by the mother, who passed away in April, 1905.

James W. Ryan was a child of only five years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa, and a lad of nine when his father died. In common with the other children of the community he began his education in the district school, but completed his course of study in the Shenandoah College at Shenandoah, this state. After leaving college he taught school for one term in Badger township, and then purchased eighty acres of land and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. Having been reared on a farm he was

thoroughly familiar with the practical methods of agriculture and met with a fair measure of success in the cultivation of his place. He was unusually diligent and enterprising, and ambitious to rapidly forge ahead. In connection with his farming he also was manager of the Humboldt Creamery Company for seven years. Although the average man would consider either occupation sufficient to engage his entire attention, Mr. Ryan successfully managed both and was never absent from the factory for a day during the period of his connection with it. He subsequently sold his farm, investing the proceeds in a hundred and sixty acres of land located in the same township. There he continued his agricultural pursuits for two years, at the expiration of which time he sold his place and became identified with the commercial activities of Fort Dodge. During the succeeding seventeen years he was engaged in the implement and hardware business in the latter city under the firm name of the Ryan Implement & Hardware Company. Feeling that he would like to withdraw from the confinement and exactions of commercial life he disposed of his store several years ago and subsequently accepted the appointment to the office of steward of the poor farm. Mr. Ryan is exceptionally well adapted for the responsibilities of this position, as he has practically evidenced during the period of his service. He is a man of systematic business methods, keen discernment and sound judgment in addition to which he possesses executive ability of more than average standard. All of these have been exercised with most gratifying results since he entered upon the duties of his present office, and substantially manifest his fitness for the work. When he took possession of the farm the receipts were only three hundred and sixty-nine dollars per year, while under his supervision there has been a marked annual increase until in 1911 his books recorded receipts to the amount of two thousand, one hundred and sixty-five dollars, and 1912 bids fair to reach three thousand. The expenses in connection with operations have shown a corresponding decrease, thus further enlarging the amount he has annually saved the county.

In October, 1893, Mr. Ryan was united in marriage to Miss Nellie J. O'Brien, a daughter of William and Catherine (O'Connor) O'Brien, the father a native of Wisconsin and the mother of Ireland. Mr. O'Brien, who was a railroad contractor, came to Webster county during the pioneer period, locating in Fort Dodge, where he pursued his business until his death, which was caused by a dynamite explosion in November, 1887. The mother is still living and continues to reside in Fort Dodge. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan have become

the parents of six children, as follows: Joseph, who has just graduated from St. Joseph's College at Dubuque; James, who is attending high school at Fort Dodge; Marie, who is a student in Sacred Heart Academy at Fort Dodge; Leo, who goes to the district school; Catherine; and Robert.

The parents and elder members of the family are communicants of the Roman Catholic church, and fraternally Mr. Ryan is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters, being a charter member of the latter organization. He gives his political support to the democratic party and, while residing in Badger township, served as clerk of the township. Sound principles, upright standards of citizenship and general reliability in business transactions have united in winning Mr. Ryan the respect and esteem of his neighbors and fellow townsmen, who hold him in high regard and accord him their staunch friendship.

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#### EDMOND DAVID RUSSELL, M. D.

Dr. Edmond D. Russell, now a practicing physician in Fort Dodge, Iowa, is a keen student of the great scientific principles which underlie the practice of medicine and his ability has gained him a prominent place in the medical fraternity. He was born in County Limerick, Ireland, in 1869, and obtained his early education in the Christian Brothers schools of that country. His family later removed to Dublin, the capital of Ireland, where he was graduated in classics and mathematics in the high school of that city. He spent two years at the Jesuits College at Clongowood, County Kildare, and was a schoolmate of Frank Mahoney, the famous literateur and author, whose fame has been immortalized by his "Bells of Shandon." Not satisfied with this splendid education Dr. Russell determined to pursue his studies further and with this intention entered the University of Dublin, from which he was graduated after completing the prescribed course of study. He came to America, and having determined to make the practice of medicine his life work entered the medical department of the Iowa State University. The quality of the work which he did in this capacity soon gave him the recognition of the faculty and made him popular with his classmates. When he had completed his course he was appointed instructor in the university

under Dr. Chase, his duties to consist of tutoring deficient students in the matriculation requirements. He held this position for some time. When he left the university he settled in Clare, Webster county, and immediately engaged in the practice of his profession. Rapid and enviable success attended his efforts and he was soon known as one of the able and efficient physicians of his adopted city. He has always been a firm believer in the value of a thorough vocational equipment. When he came to America he had already attained a degree of education far beyond the common order, but after some years of medical practice in Clare, Iowa, he removed to Chicago in order to further perfect himself in medicine and surgery. He took post-graduate courses, two at the Chicago Clinical School and two at the Chicago Post Graduate School, and when he at length definitely completed his studies he was equipped with a splendid education along specialized lines. This has been of great value to him in his life and has been the means of his gaining his present high place among his medical brethren.

Dr. Russell maintained his residence in Clare and was active in the practice of his profession in that city until 1910 when he removed to Fort Dodge and has since been prominent in this city. Dr. Russell has, besides his medical career, one other vital and important interest in life. He is an ambitious and distinguished journalist and his writings have obtained for him a reputation for clear, concise and striking literary style. His family has always been interested financially with the Sullivans in the operation of the Dublin Nation, one of the largest newspapers in Ireland. He has kept up his contributions to these journals and is well known in Webster county as a graphic and telling writer. He has now in the press a book of his essays contributed at various times in America and in Ireland. He founded and edited for two years a newspaper in Clare called the Clare Examiner. He was prominently identified with the local press for several years and only relinquished his connection with it when he was compelled to do so by the pressing duties in connection with his profession. For fourteen years he was a contributor to the Messenger of Fort Dodge and within the past years has devoted his time exclusively to contributions to the medical press and to his professional work.

During the course of his career Dr. Russell has acquired a comfortable fortune which he has invested judiciously. He owns a farm in Clare and a beautiful and commodious home at 1326 Second ave-

nue, South, Fort Dodge. He is interested in the business development of Clare, Iowa, and owns a fine business block in that city.

Politically he is a republican and takes an intelligent interest in national and local affairs but is prevented from holding public office by the arduous duties of his literary and professional work. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Knights of Columbus. He also is prominent in the Order of Eagles and in the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He gives his allegiance to the Roman Catholic church and is an active worker in religious circles.

He married in 1899 Miss Johannah Wall, a daughter of Pierce and Johannah S. Wall, both natives of Ireland. To their union were born six children. Dr. Russell is a thorough and interested student of medicine and of broad culture along literary lines. He adds to his ability as a physician and to his remarkable and specialized knowledge in this line the distinction of being a courteous and refined gentleman and a man who in every relation of life is without fear and without reproach.

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### THOMAS W. WONDERS.

Thomas W. Wonders is busily engaged in the operation of an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 20, Otho township. His birth occurred in Kewanee, Illinois, on the 5th of September, 1860, his parents being Thomas and Elizabeth (Bennett) Wonders, more extended mention of whom is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of John W. Wonders, a brother of our subject.

Thomas W. Wonders acquired his education largely in Boone county, Iowa, being four years of age when the family home was there established. He went into the coal mines when a youth of twelve and was thus employed until twenty-five years of age. About 1885 he came to Webster county and embarked in the mercantile business in association with his brother at Kalo, while later the brothers opened a store at Otho, continuing to operate the same until 1901. For some time afterward Mr. Wonders was not identified with any business pursuit and traveled to some extent. Subsequently, in association with others, he became engaged in the brick and tile business at Kalo, remaining an active factor in its conduct for about five years

and still retaining an interest in the concern, which is known as the Central Brick & Tile Company. He next operated a rented farm for two years, was then married and has since devoted his attention to the cultivation of his wife's property, which comprises one hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land on section 20, Otho township. In the work of the fields he has employed modern methods of agriculture and success has attended his undertakings.

On the 28th of December, 1911, Mr. Wonders was united in marriage to Mrs. Theta (Hart) Findlay, the widow of George Findlay and a daughter of Norman and Jane (Fuller) Hart, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. Theta Hart, who was born on the home farm on the 27th of October, 1863, gave her hand in marriage to George Findlay, a farmer of Otho township, who died on the 17th of January, 1908. They adopted two children: Raymond, who is twenty-two years of age and follows farming in Otho township; and Berdena, who is fourteen years old and lives at home.

At the polls Mr. Wonders supports the prohibition ticket, for it is his opinion that the liquor traffic is an evil which should be eradicated. In religious faith he is a Methodist, while his wife belongs to the Congregational church. Mr. and Mrs. Wonders are people of highest worth and respectability, and their pleasant home finds favor with their numerous friends.

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#### CHARLES H. WOODARD.

Charles H. Woodard is engaged in the real-estate business in Gowrie, Iowa. He was born in Vermont, in 1868, and is a son of Jane Woodard, who now resides at What Cheer, Iowa. At the early age of five years he came to Redfield, Dallas county, Iowa, and took up his abode with John Payton, who was a farmer. He continued to live with Mr. Payton until he was sixteen years of age, during which time he received his elementary education in the public schools and later pursued a course of instruction in the Dexter Business College. He afterward was engaged for one year in teaching in that institution. He later took up work in a general store at Kennedy, Iowa, where he remained for three years, after which time he was employed as a traveling salesman for a Chicago grain company and continued in that business for two months. In the fall of 1890 he established his residence in Gowrie, where he engaged in

buying grain for Councilman & Company of Chicago. He later received from President Cleveland the appointment of postmaster of Gowrie and in that office continued for four years. He then had charge of the elevators and was station agent at Lena until 1896, after which time he established himself in the real-estate business under the firm name of the Woodard Land Company and has since continued to devote his attention to that business, in which he has been successful, and is now the owner of two thousand acres of land. Mr. Woodard is affiliated with the democratic party and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Gowrie and the Knights of Pythias. He has served as councilman for four years and was elected to the office of mayor, in which he served for two years. He is at present justice of the peace and is a member of the park commission. Mr. Woodard is one of the well known and enterprising citizens of Webster county and a man who is held in high esteem by all his friends and associates.

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#### WILLIAM SCHNURR.

William Schnurr and his brother, George, proprietors of the Kalo Brick & Tile Company, have one of the largest plants of its kind in the state. The former has been a resident of Webster county for almost one-third of a century and is prominent in business circles here. His birth occurred in Buffalo, Scott county, Iowa, on the 23d of October, 1870, his parents being Andrew and Amelia (Haase) Schnurr, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. Andrew Schnurr crossed the Atlantic to the United States when a youth of thirteen, locating at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he worked as a farm hand to the time of his marriage. Subsequently he removed to Memphis, Tennessee, and was engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi for some time. Later he came to Iowa, locating at Buffalo, Scott county, where he was employed as weighmaster by a coal company for several years. Removing to Chickasaw county, he purchased a farm of eighty acres and devoted his attention to its operation for four years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Otho township, Webster county, this state, being here employed as weighmaster for the Craig Coal Company until 1893. In that year he embarked in the lumber and grain business at Otho, successfully conducting an enterprise in that line until 1902, when he sold out to his son-in-law, J. W. Wonders, and retired from active business.

He has attained the age of seventy-two years and resides at Upland, California. His wife was called to her final rest on the 29th of November, 1902.

William Schnurr attended school in Chickasaw county, Iowa, for three years, and then continued his studies in Webster county, being ten years of age when brought here by his parents. When a youth of fifteen he entered the employ of the Craig Coal Company at Otho, remaining with that concern until 1897. In that year, with his brother George, he purchased the brick and tile plant of Johnson Brothers near Kalo and they have operated the same continuously since, under the firm name of the Kalo Brick & Tile Company. Their daily output is about eight car loads, and the enterprise is continually growing under the able management and direction of its proprietors. William Schnurr is a stockholder and director in the following concerns: the Otho Mercantile Company, the Leighton Supply Company of Fort Dodge, the Fort Dodge National Bank and the Monarch Telephone Manufacturing Company of Fort Dodge. He has a handsome residence in Otho and also owns three hundred and twenty acres of valuable farm land in Otho township in association with his brother George.

On the 20th of June, 1895, Mr. Schnurr was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Dawson, a daughter of Jerry and Mary J. (Wonders) Dawson, the former a native of England and the latter of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Schnurr have three children, as follows: Mary A., who is eleven years old; and Andrew D. and Lee, who are nine and seven years of age, respectively.

William Schnurr is a staunch republican and in religious faith a Methodist. Fraternally he is connected with the local organization of the Modern Woodmen of America. His upright and honorable methods commend him to the confidence of all with whom he comes in contact, either in business or social relations, and no man in the community is held in higher esteem than is Mr. Schnurr.

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#### THOMAS DONAHOE.

Among those who have been prominently connected with the progress and development of Clare must be mentioned Thomas Donahoe, president of the State Bank, who has also been actively identified with local politics and has been the incumbent of the office of treasurer ever

since the town was incorporated. A native of Pennsylvania, his birth occurred in the town of Hazelton, on the 25th of June, 1847, his parents being James and Ann (Garahan) Donahoe, natives of Ireland. Of their marriage were born eight children, of whom our subject is the eldest. The other members of the family are as follows: Peter M., who passed away in 1910; Charles, whose death occurred in 1859; Ellen, who died in 1854; Mary, who died in 1860; Rose Ann, the first white child born in Pocahontas county; Mary J.; and Charles J. mayor of Clare, where he is also engaged in the mercantile business. The father emigrated to the United States from Ireland in 1839, being at that time twenty-four years of age. For a short period he made his home in the state of New York, but he subsequently went to Pennsylvania. He was a miner and for sixteen years was employed in the coal fields of the latter state. In the spring of 1855, he removed with his family to Dubuque, Iowa, where he prospected for a year. At the expiration of that time he continued his journey westward to Webster county, and for four years worked in the mines of Fort Dodge, during which time the family resided in Pocahontas county, where he had preempted a quarter section of land, and he subsequently turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. For seven years he applied himself diligently to the cultivation of his farm, and then returned to Webster county. He here continued farming in Johnson township, where he bought a hundred and sixty acres of land. The development of this latter property engaged his undivided attention until 1887, when he retired and removed to Clare, where his death occurred in April, 1899. The mother passed away in September, 1895.

Thomas Donahoe was eight years of age when his parents left Pennsylvania and nine when they located in Webster county. His education was begun in the public schools of his native state and continued in those of Iowa, following which he assisted in the cultivation of the home farm. He remained with his parents until 1895, and in August of that year he removed to Clare and assumed the duties of cashier of the State Bank. He retained this position until 1911, when he was promoted to the office of president, which he still retains. The bank was organized in May, 1889, and during the intervening years it has developed into one of the strong financial institutions of the county. Mr. Donahoe has acquired extensive realty interests in this section, owning farms in both Jackson and Johnson townships, and also property in Clare. He is a stockholder in the cement plant at Gilmore and is interested in various other local industries, being one of the substantial citizens of Webster county.

Mr. Donahoe is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church. Politically he is a democrat and served as clerk of Johnson township for sixteen years and he has also held the office of trustee, while during the period of his residence in Johnson township he discharged the duties of assessor. He has always been interested in the development of the community and has supported all movements calculated to advance the welfare of its citizens. The practical ideas and progressive methods of Mr. Donahoe, as manifested in the discharge of his duties in both public and private life, no less than his sterling qualities of character have won him the esteem and high regard of many of his fellow townsmen.

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#### FRANK A. SCHNURR.

Frank A. Schnurr, an enterprising and successful agriculturist residing in Otho township, operates a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 7, which he owns in association with his brother William. His birth occurred in Memphis, Tennessee, on the 6th of November, 1864, his parents being Andrew and Amelia (Haase) Schnurr, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. Andrew Schnurr crossed the Atlantic to the United States when a youth of thirteen, locating at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he worked as a farm hand until the time of his marriage. Following that important event in his life he removed to Memphis, Tennessee, being engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi for some time. Subsequently he came to Iowa, locating at Buffalo, Scott county, where he was employed as weighmaster by a coal company for several years. Removing to Chickasaw county, he purchased a farm of eighty acres and devoted his attention to its operation for four years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Otho township, Webster county, this state, being here employed as weighmaster for the Craig Coal Company until 1893. In that year he embarked in the lumber and grain business at Otho, successfully conducting an enterprise of that character until 1902, when he sold out to his son-in-law, J. W. Wonders, and retired from active business cares. He has now attained the age of seventy-two years and resides at Upland, California. His wife was called to her final rest on the 29th of November, 1902.

Frank A. Schnurr, who was two years of age when brought to this state by his parents, obtained his early education in Buffalo, Scott county, and later continued his studies in Chickasaw county. After putting aside his text-books he worked for his father, remaining under the parental roof until twenty-three years of age. For about twenty years thereafter he was engaged in coal mining and then rented a tract of land, which he cultivated for four years. At the end of that time, in association with his brother, William, he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 7, Otho township, improved the property and has since been busily engaged in its operation. His undertakings as an agriculturist have been attended with success, the well tilled fields annually yielding golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Otho and is widely recognized as a substantial and representative citizen of his community.

In November, 1886, Mr. Schnurr was united in marriage to Miss Kate Irvin, a daughter of Walter and Helen (Grant) Irvin, who were born in Ireland and Scotland respectively. Our subject and his wife have seven children, as follows: Millie, who gave her hand in marriage to Otto Bargreen and resides at Fort Dodge, Iowa; Maude; Blanche; Jennie; William; Robert; and Edna.

Mr. Schnurr gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is one of the present trustees of Otho township. He has also served as school director, the cause of education ever finding in him a stanch champion. His religious faith is that of the Methodist church, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. Earnest effort and intelligently directed labor have ever constituted the salient features of his business career, while his life has been governed by high principles that have gained for him the respect and good-will of his fellowmen.

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#### FRANK H. FRAHM.

Frank H. Frahm, filling the office of county supervisor is found to be a faithful and efficient incumbent in that position. Moreover, he has long been well known as a representative farmer of the county. He was born in Cooper township, Webster county, Iowa, November 16, 1871, a son of Joachim and Lauretta (Ebert) Frahm, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to America when he was but sixteen years of age. When

the Civil war broke out, he enlisted for service in Company I, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry and served throughout the war. Upon his arrival in this country he settled in Chicago, but before the beginning of the war removed to Fort Dodge. After he was mustered out of service he returned to this city and purchased a farm near Dayton. He resided there only a short time before selling and purchasing the south half of the northwest quarter of section 36 in Cooper township. He immediately began improving this property and was actively engaged in its cultivation until 1894. During those years he brought it under a high state of cultivation and his life was one of intense and well directed activity. He also purchased the south half of the northeast quarter of section 35, the north half of the southeast quarter of section 35 in Cooper township and the northwest quarter of section 25. In 1894 he removed to Manson, Iowa, where he purchased another farm. He resided there until his death which occurred on the 24th of October, 1897. The mother is still living on the old home place in Cooper township at the age of seventy-three years.

Frank H. Frahm spent his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, and the common schools of Iowa afforded him his educational advantages until he was prepared to enter the German schools of Fort Dodge. He remained with his parents until he became of age when he began to learn stationary engineering. He worked at that trade in Fort Dodge intermittently for about six years. After his father's death he determined to take up agricultural pursuits and he purchased a farm which his father had previously owned. His early home training had given him some experience in agriculture and he has become a most successful farmer. His is one of the most improved one hundred and sixty acre farms in the county. He also devotes considerable attention to stock-raising.

In February, 1897, Mr. Frahm was married to Miss Christina Yunker, a daughter of H. and Etta (Zimmerman) Yunker, both natives of Germany, their daughter Christina having been born there February 18, 1870. The parents never came to this country. In his native land the father was a miller by trade and worked at that occupation the greater part of his life. Later he purchased twenty acres of land which he operated until his death which occurred in 1909. The mother passed away in 1886.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Frahm are members of the Presbyterian church and are most highly esteemed people. Mr. Frahm belongs to the Masonic Lodge, the Redmen and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His political allegiance has ever been given to the republican party and his fellow citizens have elected him a member of the county board of supervisors. No public trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree, and his fidelity to honorable and manly principles in fraternal, social, religious and political circles has ever won for him the good-will of those with whom he has been brought into contact.

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### WILLIAM CREGAN.

William Cregan has been a resident of Webster county since he was four years of age and has for some time been successfully engaged in various lines of business activity in Barnum, where he is now conducting an up-to-date and fast-growing general store. He was born in Illinois in October, 1873, and is a son of Robert and Bridget (Welch) Cregan, natives of Ireland. His father came to America in his early youth and settled in New York, where he worked out by the month as a farm hand for some time. He later went to Illinois, where he operated a farm until he removed to Webster county. Here he rented land in Johnson township which he cultivated until he purchased one hundred and twenty acres in the same section, which he operated until 1909, when he disposed of his holdings and moved to Barnum, where he is now living retired. His wife passed away in September, 1911.

Mr. Cregan was reared and educated in Webster county, being four years of age when he came to this section with his parents. When he grew to manhood he herded cattle for a few years, abandoning this occupation in order to engage in general agriculture. He rented a farm in Johnson township and was successful in the cultivation of the soil for five years. At the end of that time he moved to Barnum and conducted a livery for five years. He sold out his interests at the end of that time and became identified with the drug business for a similar period, after which he established himself in the mercantile line. He strives to keep a large stock, complete in every detail and has his goods tastefully and attractively arranged. He owns the building which he occupies and in it carries on a flourish-

ing and constantly expanding business, which makes him one of the substantial and enterprising merchants of his city. He owns in addition an eighty-acre tract of land in Minnesota.

Mr. Cregan is a stanch republican and always votes the party ticket. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church. His business success has come as a natural result of industry and intelligent activity. He strives to keep pace with advancing progress and never allows his stock to become out of date. He keeps his methods of operation modern, while he adheres constantly to the old standard of strict honesty in all the relations of his life.

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### JOHN W. WONDERS.

John W. Wonders, successfully engaged in business as the proprietor of a lumberyard at Otho, was born in Illinois in July, 1863, his parents being Thomas and Elizabeth (Bennett) Wonders, both of whom were natives of England. The father, who worked as a miner in that country, was employed in the coal mines of Pennsylvania after coming to the United States. Subsequently he removed to Illinois and later came to Iowa, locating in Boone county, where he was engaged in mining for some time. Coming to Webster county, he first worked in the coal mines here but afterward embarked in the mercantile business at Kalo, conducting an establishment of that character until his death, which occurred in 1884. His wife was called to her final rest in 1889.

John W. Wonders, who was about nine years of age when he came to Webster county with his parents, was here educated and reared to manhood. He embarked in the mercantile business at Kalo in association with his brothers and later opened a store at Ogden, which was subsequently closed out. The brothers then began business at Otho, conducting stores at Kalo and Otho for about twenty years, on the expiration of which period they dissolved the partnership. John W. Wonders afterward made his way to Fort Dodge, where he spent a year with the Granger Implement Company, in which he still retains an interest. Returning to Otho, he purchased a lumberyard and has since been successfully engaged in business along this line. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Otho and well deserves recognition among the substantial and progressive citizens of the community.

In October, 1890, Mr. Wonders was united in marriage to Miss Emma Schnurr, who was born near Davenport, Iowa, in 1867, her parents being Andrew and Amelia (Hasse) Schnurr. Her father, who was for a number of years engaged in the lumber and grain business at Otho, is now a resident of California. The mother is deceased, her demise occurring in November, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Wonders have three children, Sylvia, Frank and Donald. John W. Wonders exercises his right of franchise in support of the prohibition ticket, being a stanch advocate of the cause of temperance. In religious faith he is a Methodist. Both he and his estimable wife have a host of warm friends throughout the community and justly merit the regard and esteem which is uniformly accorded them.

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### WILLARD C. AINSWORTH.

Willard C. Ainsworth is the owner of a valuable farm of four hundred and eighty acres in Douglas township, where he has been identified with the agricultural interests for over forty-five years, having located here soon after he was mustered out of the army in 1865. He belongs to an old New York family and was born in Madison county, that state, on December 6, 1837, his parents being Leroy and Mary (Carpenter) Ainsworth. The parents passed their entire lives in the Empire state, where the father followed the blacksmith's trade. He passed away in 1892 and the mother in 1884.

The first twenty-three years in the life of Willard C. Ainsworth were passed in the state of his nativity. He was reared at home and given the advantages of a better education than was received by the average youth of that period. In 1860, he left the parental home and came to Iowa, locating in Hamilton county. After a year's residence there he removed to Boone, where he taught school until May, 1864, when he went to Davenport and enlisted in the army. He went to the front as a member of Company D, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, remaining in the service until the close of hostilities, during which period he was incapacitated for a time by a broken leg. When mustered out he returned to Boone county, but subsequently came to Webster county, purchasing eighty acres of land in Douglas township, which formed the nucleus of his present farm. He

experienced many discouragements and hardships during those early days, having been compelled to pay for his original tract of land three times, because of a dispute in the title. Owing to the scarcity of money and the general conditions then existing in the business world this unfortunate circumstance greatly retarded his progress and to a man of less resolution of purpose would have proven hopelessly discouraging. Mr. Ainsworth, however, is most persistent and enterprising and applied himself with the determination that enabled him to surmount his difficulties and gradually forge ahead. Year by year he was able to advance his interests and extend the boundaries of his farm until he held the title to four hundred and eighty acres of fertile land. The place is well improved and equipped and is one of the valuable properties of the township. Mr. Ainsworth has prospered in his undertakings of recent years and is now numbered among the substantial citizens of his community. Beside farming interests he is one of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Fort Dodge.

In Webster county, in September, 1865, Mr. Ainsworth was married to Miss Julia A. Stevens, a daughter of Socrates G. and Harriet (Jones) Stevens, who are mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work. To them have been born five children, as follows: Harriet M., who lives at home; Minnie A., the wife of E. D. Wilson, an attorney at Jefferson, Iowa; Willard L., who is operating his father's farm; Adelaide L., formerly a practicing physician of Waterloo, Iowa, who passed away in April, 1904; and Alburn S., who is a lawyer at Thompson Falls, Montana.

The family affiliate with the Congregational church, and fraternally Mr. Ainsworth is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Politically he is a republican, giving his support to the progressive faction of that party. A man of many estimable qualities, honest and upright in matters of business and straightforward and reliable in all transactions, Mr. Ainsworth enjoys the respect and esteem of his neighbors and fellow citizens, who have had ample opportunity to prove his worth during the long period of his residence in the community.

# INDEX

Acher, A. E.....	199	Fallon, J. C.....	102
Ainsworth, W. C.....	311	Fawkes, Francis .....	215
Allstot, C. H.....	138	Findlay, C. V.....	249
Alton, W. E.....	166	Flanagan, P. F.....	219
Anderson, C. A.....	80	Flynn, P. T.....	104
Anderson, S. R. E.....	62	Ford, J. F.....	91
Arent, Charles .....	106	Forsberg, W. O.....	193
Ashton, Thomas .....	63	Fortney, G. W.....	247
Ashton, J. B.....	65	Fortney, J. D.....	100
		Frahm, F. H.....	307
Baldwin, H. H.....	217		
Baldwin, Dr. H. H.....	277	Granger, C. L.....	211
Barrowman, William .....	206	Green, Darwin .....	97
Bass, James .....	110	Gruver, Perry .....	124
Beshey, A. L.....	139	Guhl, A. H. F.....	220
Bloom, Erie .....	245	Gurnett, M. D.....	54
Bohnenkamp, C. A.....	36	Gurnett, T. F.....	224
Brown, E. V.....	119		
Burgfried, Edward .....	280	Hagans, J. W.....	136
Burke, P. T.....	279	Halligan, T. J.....	180
Burnquist, B. B.....	49	Haurahan, John .....	192
		Hanson, O. C.....	70
Campbell, James .....	37	Hart, G. D.....	74
Carey, Mary A.....	88	Hart, N. H.....	293
Carter, Stewart .....	86	Hastings, E. E.....	44
Christensen, Chris .....	182	Haviland, W. C.....	227
Coffin, L. S.....	148	Haviland, W. E.....	107
Colby, W. H. H.....	209	Healy, M. F.....	256
Collins, Hugh .....	90	Hepler, C. B.....	176
Corey, M. N.....	14	Honge, A. E.....	81
Courtright, J. E.....	225	Houge, P. A.....	271
Craig, Frank, Sr.....	243	Hunter, R. P.....	238
Cregan, William .....	309		
		Jones, A. W.....	68
Daly, M. B.....	79		
Daughenbaugh, A. F.....	292	Kendall, Edward .....	202
Davidson, E. T.....	201	Kime, J. W.....	121
Dawley, A. M.....	207	Knudson, C. C.....	265
Dawson, T. H.....	143	Knutson, Adolph .....	162
Dean, S. M.....	117	Knutson, Alfred .....	162
Doffiver, J. J.....	272		
Dolliver, J. P.....	18	Larrabee, Charles .....	6
Dolliver, V. B.....	284	Larrabee, Frederic .....	213
Donahoe, Thomas .....	304	Larrabee, William .....	31
Drake, F. B.....	139	Lauderdale, Maude .....	134
Duncombe, C. F.....	282	Lind, J. A.....	82
Duncombe, J. F.....	5	Lindberg, A. C.....	42
Dunning, E. M.....	96	Lindberg, J. A.....	262
Dwyer, J. D.....	46	Lindquist, J. A.....	98
Dwyer, Owen .....	236	Lingard, G. E.....	145
		Lingard, William .....	140
Eastman, J. H.....	171	Lowry, J. D.....	17
Ekfelt, A. J.....	48	Lundberg, C. V.....	188
		Lutz, F. P.....	179

McDermott, W. J.....	85	Russell, E. D.....	299
McNeely, Theulious .....	92	Rutledge, J. I.....	108
McQuilkin, A. D.....	254	Ryan, J. W.....	297
Mallinger, Peter .....	146		
Mason, G. W.....	233	Schnurr, F. A.....	306
Messerole, C. G.....	289	Schnurr, George .....	84
Miller, L. V.....	183	Schnurr, William .....	303
Mitchell, P. M.....	260	Sims, T. F.....	232
Mollenhoff, August .....	286	Springer, F. M.....	71
Monk, J. F .....	33	Springer, G. F.....	230
Mulroney, J. M.....	172	Stevens, Mary J.....	253
Myrland, L. O.....	142	Swanson, S. P.....	195
		Swanstrom, C. J.....	72
Newdeck, L. W.....	163		
Nicholson, W. L.....	56	Tennant, A. E.....	197
		Todd, John .....	61
Oleson, O. M.....	101	Turner, W. R.....	13
Olney, F. B.....	38		
		Wagner, N. J.....	123
Parsons, C. D.....	129	Weiss, E. L.....	89
Patton, A. F.....	50	Wildman, W. M.....	251
Pearsons, G. R.....	244	Williams, E. H.....	288
Peterson, T. K.....	190	Williams, J. B.....	27
Post, W. J.....	291	Wonders, J. W.....	310
Powers, Walter .....	269	Wonders, T. W.....	301
Pratt, H. M.....	237	Woodard, C. H.....	302
Pratt, L. H.....	274	Woodard, O. J.....	10
Prusia, F. E.....	11	Wright, A. R.....	267
		Wright, R. M.....	66
Richards, A. L.....	184		
Roy, Emma .....	165	Yant, O. G.....	127
Ruebel, Frederick .....	15		















